



## Nurturing Nature: Engaging and taking responsibility

Science and sustainability will be the driving force behind our units in our theme of 'Nurturing Nature'. Children will learn about the delicate balance of nature and the world around us and the impact of humans and their decisions on this balance. Children will investigate topics that impact climate change, biodiversity and habitats and become problem solvers of the future: developing solutions that protect the world and its sustainability. Fieldwork will play an important role in allowing children to investigate locations, spot patterns and developing their understanding of sustainability.



### Reception - What do plants need to survive?

Throughout this focus, the children will explore the outdoor area of school and look closely and make observations of plants that are growing. They will talk about what they are and what they will look like when they are fully grown. Children will have the opportunity to map out the school garden area and decorate with sketches and labels. Children will understand the importance of protecting God's creation and working together to achieve this. They will gain key skills of taking care of plants and show care and an understanding of how we can keep plants alive. Through **Understanding of the World** children will look deeply into their own environment and identify things that have grown in our school playground. They will have the opportunity to plant their own seeds and become responsible in learning how to take care of them. Children will be given opportunities to set up a garden centre in the classroom. Through our **Talk for Write** children will look at the story of 'Jack and the Giant Beanstalk' and through this learn about how plants have different seeds, beans, and pods in order for them to grow. They will use this knowledge to create their own version of the story and adapting the beanstalk to a different kind of plant. Finally, through **Expressive Arts and Design** the children will examine a flower and make a large model in the classroom, do leaf rubbings and then create a large piece of art on the playground floor.

### Theme Impact

Children will develop an understanding of growth, decay and changes over time and the impact these have on the environment around them. Children will be able to gain an in depth understanding of God's creation and identify ways in which we can protect them and keep them safe.

### Catholic Social Teaching

#### Care for Creation

Children will focus on care for creation. They will explore the grounds and observe the wonderful environment God has created for us. They will think of ways in how we can take care of the environment God created for us. Children will think of their own actions and how they may affect God's creation.

### Application

Application in this theme will be through the enquiry project. Children will have a number of opportunities to explore the 6Cs, particularly Communication and Collaboration as they will be working in groups to create a Garden Centre in the playground. They will explore the key question, **'What do plants need to survive?'** Children will learn about the growth of plants and apply this into their learning by planting a seed and taking care of their plants. Through this they will learn to take care of God's creations.

### Enrichment

Visit to local park, Virtual Garden Centre Tour

### Wider Curriculum

Children will continue to learn in other areas of the curriculum alongside their theme. These areas include...

#### EAD

Create collages and planning seeds

#### PE

Balance Ability

Fun Fit

#### PSHE

Managing Behaviour

#### Cooking

Berry Mess

#### Class Reader

