

A WONDERFUL WORLD: Appreciating God's Creations

Focus Overview

Year R

At Our Lady
and
St. Hubert's,
home, school
and parish
work
together,
knowing that
God is with
us in all we
do

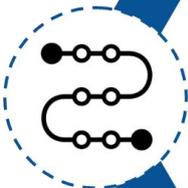
A Wonderful World:
Appreciating God's
Creations



Peace and Conflict: Respect
for all Individuals



A Moment in Time:
Learning from the
Past for Our Future



We are Engineers:
Embracing Technology
to Solve problems



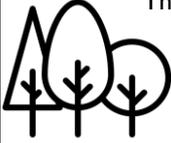
Nurturing Nature:
Engaging and Taking
Responsibility



**Our Place in the
World:** Identity and
Community



A Wonderful World: Appreciating God's Creations Year Reception -



Throughout this focus, children will explore the four different seasons in depth and look at the weather patterns during these seasons. Children will learn what the word weather means and find out how different types of weather can be measured. Children will use a class weather station to observe, measure and record the weather across the seasons. They will also observe changes across the seasons by exploring the signs of autumn and winter through nature and wildlife. Children will also work scientifically by collecting, recording and interpreting simple data. Through **Understanding of the World** children will look closely at weather patterns and identify changes. They will use the role-play area to become weather reports to observe and discuss current weather.

In **English**, children will understand more about the different seasons and types of weathers. Through our Talk for Write children will go on a journey with to explore the different types of weather the family go through on their bear hunt outing. **Communication and language** will enable children to discuss their findings about weather changes. They will be able to use this to make predictions and explain their ideas openly and clearly,

Finally, through **Art** children will create weather jars to deepen their knowledge and to reinforce the different types of weathers. Children will make close observations on an autumn walk and will create nature collages, to portray their understanding of seasons and weather. Children will learn of combing colours to create effective pieces, learning how colours can be mixed.

Theme Impact

By teaching this theme children will be able to gain a deeper understanding of our world and look closely at the environment around them. They will be able to discuss in detail the similarities, differences, patterns and change.

Catholic Social Teaching

Pope Francis invites everyone on the planet to consider how our actions are affecting the Earth and the poorest people. Everything is interconnected and all of the creation praises God. It is our Christians vocation to care creation.

- Experiencing closeness with God through the beauty and wonder of our world.
- Explore the world around us

Curriculum Drivers

Understanding the world

Early Years Objectives

- Looks closely at similarities, differences, patterns and change.
- Children know about similarities and differences in relation to places, objects, materials and living things.
- They talk about the features of their own immediate environment and how environments might vary from one another.

Expressive arts and design

Early Years Objectives

- They safely use and explore a variety of materials, tools and techniques, experimenting with colour, design, texture, form and function (leaf printing, autumn walk collage).
- Explores what happens when they mix colours.
- Experiments to create different textures (weather experiments)
- Explores the different sounds of instruments. (creating weather chimes)

Personal, social and emotional development

Early Years Objectives

- They are confident to speak in a familiar group, will talk about their ideas, and will choose the resources they need for their chosen activities
- Describe self in positive terms and talk about abilities (feelings in different weathers)
- Confident to speak to others about own needs, wants, interests and opinions.

Application

Can I identify the patterns and changes in different weather conditions? Children to explore ideas in groups, by observing the weather and sharing information on the similarities and differences in weather patterns.

Other EYFS curriculum Opportunities

Writing

- Writes own name and other things such as labels, captions.
- Attempts to write short sentences in meaningful contexts.
- Can segment the sounds in simple words and blend them together

Poetry

- Weather poems

Reading

- Enjoys an increasing range of books. (Fiction, Non-Fiction/Poetry)
- Can segment the sounds in simple words and blend them together and knows which letters represent some of them.
- Knows that information can be retrieved from books and computers.

We're Going on a Bear Hunt – Michael Rosen

One Snowy Night – Nick Butterworth

The Windy day - Usborne

The Sun and the Wind – Aesops Fables

Tree: Seasons Come, Seasons Go - Patricia Hegarty

Lift-the-Flap Questions and Answers About Weather - Katie Daynes

Poems about Seasons – Brian Moses

Technology – application of previously taught skills

- Completes a simple program on a computer.
- Interacts with age-appropriate computer software.
- They select and use technology for particular purposes.

Enrichment

- DIY weather station in EYFS playground - Use knowledge and skills to look into creating their own
- Autumn walk in forest school - discovery Autumn leaves and observing the environment in this season. Use as a basis for artwork – sketching leaves in books and creating a collage.
- Bear hunt in forest school

Home Learning

Weather Projects:

- Storm in a jar
- Weather charts

Evaluation Notes

Others objectives to be covered this term

Physical Development

Gymnastics

- Listen and respond appropriately to instructions.
- Move in a variety of ways, changing speed and direction.
- Apply simple understanding of shape and space
- Jump and rebound on and off low apparatus.
- Work with a partner to jump in unison.
- Create a simple jumping sequence.
- Balance beanbag in as many different ways on the body as possible.
- Move and roll a ball around body with control.
- Work as part of a team to transfer balls, beanbags and hoops.
- Work on apparatus stations to develop travelling skills on various parts of the body.
- Move over, under, around, through, on and off apparatus and incorporate balances.
- Develop body awareness moving limbs together and in isolation.
- Show ability to copy and repeat simple patterns.
- Use basic equipment to demonstrate coordinated movement
- Discover and perform simple shapes.
- Explore balancing in a variety of ways.

Communication and language

- Uses language to imagine and recreate roles and experiences in play situations.
- Links statements and sticks to a main theme or intention.
- Uses talk to organise, sequence and clarify thinking, ideas, feelings and events.
- Introduces a storyline or narrative into their play.

Cooking in the Curriculum

Toast – See cooking curriculum for recipe guidance and skills.