

### Communication and Language

Stories through the arts allow the children to explore stories through music, art, dance, drama and imaginative play. The children will watch and listen as well as be a part of the story telling. Telling stories through drama and using puppets in the puppet theatre are just a couple of the story telling avenues the children will explore. The children will be required to anticipate key events and respond to what they see and hear with relevant comments, questions or actions.

### English

In our English sessions, the children will be using their segmenting and blending skills when reading and writing stories. When writing, the children will be encouraged to spell tricky words correctly. Please help your child to read and spell the tricky words within their phonics book. Start with the phase 2 tricky words and gradually work through the tricky words from each phase.

Handwriting will continue to be taught through our phonics programme and we will consolidate how to join letters when using cursive letter formation. A twenty minute phonics session will continue to take place on a daily basis.

### Physical Development

This half term the PE sessions will focus on telling a story through dance. The children will incorporate skills previously learnt in PE, such as ways to travel, using space and being coordinated to enhance their dance routines.

### Outdoor Learning – Understanding the World

The outdoor environment will be an inspirational setting where the children can create stories about what they see and hear, being inspired by wildlife to create character roles and magical lands from natural materials.

The children will continue to look after the onions that are growing in their vegetable plot by pulling up weeds and watering the area when it is dry. They will also feed and watch the garden birds and engage in imaginative play in the mud kitchen.

## Dodford First School

### Topic Overview

Fairies and Frogs is an imaginative and creative topic. It will involve the exploration of story maps, story openings, character and plot. We will look at how a story is told and re-tell stories in a variety of ways.

### Fairies and Frogs

Exploring Stories through the Arts



### Expressive Arts and Design

Fairies and Frogs embrace expressive arts and design, allowing the children to freely use their imagination and creativity to fully immerse themselves in the topic. The children will experiment with different ways to tell a story. They will bring scenes to life by making props and scenery. Also, the children will complete a range of craft activities from thumb print fairies and frogs to creating fairy huts and frog dens.

### Understanding of the World

The children will learn about the life cycle of a frog. A few children from the class have already spotted frog spawn in the school pond and have watched and heard many frogs leaping and croaking. We shall make the most of our school pond and find out what creatures lurk beneath the water with a bit of pond dipping.

The children will use a program on the computer to write their own story and illustrate it. They will be encouraged to share their story with the rest of the class and answer questions asked by their peers.

### Personal, Social and Emotional Development

Through PSED activities, the children will explore different characters and how their actions affect others. They will discuss their own behaviour and how the choices they make have consequences. There will be many activities linked to drama that focus on facial expression and how they show how a person maybe feeling, allowing the children to connect to the character and develop their role.

### Mathematics

In mathematics, the children will continue to recap, apply and extend their knowledge and understanding of number, shape, space and measures. There will be a focus on ordering numbers and saying one more or one less than any given number, counting on or back to work out addition and subtraction, and to identify the characteristics of objects and everyday shapes and use mathematical language to describe them.





### Phonics

Please continue to encourage your child to learn the sounds and tricky words within their phonics book. It is very important that they recognise the grapheme (how it looks) and say the correct phoneme (sound). This will improve their skills in spelling and reading. A great website to help your child to learn the new sounds is [mrthorne.com](http://mrthorne.com) In addition, forming the new grapheme correctly is also important. Please ensure your child is joining the letters in the correct place when using cursive formation at home.



### Maths

You can help to support your child at home by helping them to identify and order numerals and say one more or one less than any given number. When you spot a number maybe on a door or page of a book, ask your child to identify the number and say one more or one less than the number. Continue to talk about time and use language related to time such as yesterday, today, earlier, later, tomorrow. Also, talk about the days of the week and the month of the year as much as possible. You could allow your child to mark events on a calendar such as when they go swimming, on a play date or out to the park.