

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.

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

Understanding of the World

The children will observe frogs and record changes over time through a set of drawings. In doing so, they 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.

English

In our English sessions, the children will be using their segmenting and blending skills when reading and writing stories and scripts. Handwriting will continue to be taught through our phonics programme and we will consolidate how to join letters when using cursive letter formation. Phonics will continue to take place on a daily basis.

Please continue to work towards your child's targets in reading and writing. I will introduce a spelling reward chart for phonetically spelt or correctly spelt words within written work. The children will receive many rewards as they collect 4, 8, 12 and 16 stickers. Once they've completed their chart with 20 stickers they will receive their self-chosen reward to celebrate!



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 drama by miming a scene, being involved with a group which has a narrator and even using dialogue taken directly from the 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 clay fairy huts and frog dens.

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. First, we will focus on money and then move onto time. The children will start by sequencing a typical day and order days of the week. The children will be introduced to o'clock before extending further. They will make their own clocks, providing the opportunity to learn about the clock hands and the numbers present on a clock face in a hands on way.

Physical Development

This half term the PE sessions will focus on 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 broad beans, apple tree seedlings and potatoes that are growing in the classroom and vegetable plot by pulling up weeds and watering the area when it is dry. They will also feed and watch the garden birds and play in the mud kitchen.





Key skills will be developed in all areas of the curriculum and learning will be linked to our Topic Focus wherever appropriate

Phonics Books

Please continue to encourage your child to learn the letters and sounds provided within their phonics book. Revisit previously taught sounds as well as newly added items. 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.

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.



Time

You can help to support your child at home with time by encouraging the use of everyday language to describe the events happening around them such as before, after, today, morning and yesterday. You can discuss the days of the week and compare how the weekend is different to the weekday routine. You can also ask your child to mark in the family activities on the calendar such as swimming lessons on Tuesday, sports day at school on Friday, Daniel's birthday party on Saturday morning.