

Year Nursery_Understanding the World: The Natural World: curriculum overview 2026-2027

	Autumn	Spring	Summer
Understanding the World: The Natural World:	Securing any range 4 skills and beginning to introduce range 5 skills. - Use all their senses in hands -on exploration of natural materials - Explore collections of materials with similar and/or different properties	Working within range 5 - Talk about what they see, using a wide vocabulary. - Explore how things work. - Talk about the differences between materials and changes they notice - Comments and asks questions about aspects of their familiar world such as the place where they live or the natural world	Securing range 5 - Understand the key features of the life cycle of a plant and an animal. - Begin to understand the need to respect and care for the natural environment and all living things - Talks about why things happen and how things work -Developing an understanding of growth, decay and changes over time Begin to understand the effect their behaviour can have on the environment
Vocabulary:	arms, legs, head, body, healthy, nose, eyes, mouth, ears, hands.	map, world, animal, similarities, trees, woods, forest. Winter, cold, snow.	seed, stem, flower, plant, grow healthy, food, body minibeast, home, garden animals, same/similar, fur, feather, skin
Possible topics/cross curricular links	Me and My Family/ Family and Friends – Learning about parts of the body, keeping healthy. Traditional Tales – Different environments	Animals of China (Chinese New Year Links) - Changes in seasons, similarities between animals Magical Characters – different environments, using Spinney area	Healthy eating Growing and plants Minibeasts Animals from around the world.