



Moo! Baa! Cluck!



From muddy Autumn welly walks, to meeting farmers to exploring a farm, from climbing on tractors and harvesting food to baking a whole range of treats to eat - this half term we will have lots of fun learning about life down on the farm!

Understanding the World

Children will have opportunities to:

- look closely at change - how the weather changes and how the environment changes around us in the Autumn
- talk about and join in our Harvest celebrations
- complete a simple programme on the computer - initially we will look at our farm programme then our art programme
- select and use technology for particular uses (and take a photo of a model or piece of work!)
- talk about similarities and differences in objects and materials (this half term the materials will be the natural materials that we find as we explore the great outdoors in Autumn - acorns, conkers, fir cones, stones, leaves of different shapes and colours...)

At home - When you are out and about talk about how the weather changes in the Autumn and Winter, gather leaves of different colours and bring them to school to share. Talk about how what we wear changes in the winter, as well as how to keep warm! Enjoy cooking a treat together at home. Ask your child about how the food or ingredients change during cooking. Try the following questions... What can you see? What can you feel? What do you think will happen next? What will happen if we...?



Communication and Language

We will be sharing a range of different stories all set on the farm, including 'A Squash and a Squeeze', 'What the Ladybird Heard' and 'Farmer Duck' to name but a few. We will read and retell them, talk about them and create maps and puppets to help us. These activities will help us to learn to:

- listen to others - in a range of situations
- listen to stories and talk about them, anticipating 'what might happen next?' as well as recalling what we have heard
- talk about our learning to our friends, sharing ideas, including relevant detail

At home - Talk about stories and ask your child 'what might happen next? What do they like or dislike about the story? Enjoy a visit to the library to find a book! Bring in books about farming and share the amazing facts that you learn.

Encourage your child to explain their thinking when talking about their ideas by asking them 'why?'



Personal, Social and Emotional Development

Children will continue to have opportunities to:

- make new relationships
- take turns with others
- show sensitivity to the needs and feelings of others
- try new activities (and be brave!)
- understand and follow the rules and routines of the class and school.

At home - Talk about how you feel or how others feel when your child has shown care, concern or kindness to others. Talk about how kind actions make others feel happy as well as how unkind actions can make people feel.

Talk about characters in stories that you read and whether the actions of characters make others feel happy or cross. Discuss what you and your child would do.

Encourage and praise your child's efforts when trying new activities and when being independent - especially when using the toilet or getting dressed and putting on winter coats. Confident children become independent and independent children are confident.

Expressive Arts and Design

Whether they are building farm vehicles; creating shops to sell our fantastic food we have made; making homes for animals or puppets to help us retell a story or book about farms, children will be developing their ability to:

- use their imagination to create simple representations of events and objects
- use simple tools and techniques (such as scissors, tape, staplers...) to assemble and join materials, adapting work where appropriate
- introduce a narrative in their play - creating stories with our farm toys, their own models or anything they can find!
- explore how to mix colours

At home - Look at pictures of farms and animals together with your child and create a model or picture together. Bring it in to show us! We love to see anything you have created at home!

Mathematics

Initially, all teaching staff in Lake will spend time observing and teaching children in order to work out what they already know and what their best next steps should be. Key next steps in learning for most children will be to:

- count accurately - initially up to 20, though the sky is the limit!
- recognise and order quantities and numbers - again, initially up to 20 but the sky is the limit!
- use words to describe some 3D shapes - cylinders, cones and cubes to begin with...

At home - Count everything - when tidying up, walking up the stairs...count down from 10 as you go for a walk or wait for something patiently, then try from 12, then from 13 keep going until you are counting down from 20 to 0! Go on a shape hunt around the house or at the playground - what shapes can you see?

Physical Development

Children will have opportunities to:

- travel under, over and through balancing and climbing equipment
- move confidently in a range of ways, safely negotiating space
- jump off objects and land safely

At home - Enjoy preparing healthy meals with your child and talk with them about how you as a family keep healthy. Enjoy exploring the apparatus at the park, travelling over, under and through the equipment. Feel your hearts race as you exercise together and talk about the changes that happen when we exercise.

Children will also continue to have opportunities to:

- hold a pencil effectively to form recognisable letters
- control safely and effectively knives when cutting food, scissors when cutting paper and card

At home - Enjoy drawing together so that your child can develop a comfortable pencil grip in a relaxing way using large chalk and chunky pens.

Literacy

Following our initial assessments of children's learning, every day children will read and write sounds in our daily phonics sessions. Children will be learning to:

- identify letter sounds and words
- blend sounds to read words
- hear and say sounds in words
- write letter sounds and attempt to write words

At home - By the end of September, all children will have a sound book full of sounds and words that they are learning at school. Please look at your child's sound book and practice saying the sounds and actions with your child every day!

