



Class 1 Willow & Oak

Understanding the World and Expressive Art and Design Stay and Learn



Guidance to your child's learning
and development in the early years
foundation stage



Early Years Curriculum

7 areas of learning and development

PRIME AREAS

- Communication and Language
- Personal, Social and Emotional Development (PSED)
- Physical Development

SPECIFIC AREAS

- Literacy
- Mathematics
- Understanding the World
- Expressive Arts and Design



Understanding the World Specific Area

Understanding the world involves guiding children to make sense of their physical world and their community.



When children begin to understand their personal experiences, through interaction with adults and other children, they begin to make sense of the world.

The frequency and range of children's personal experiences increases their knowledge and sense of the world around them – from visiting parks, libraries and museums to meeting important members of society such as police officers, nurses and firefighters.

Personal experiences contribute to children's emerging sense of place, such where they live and other familiar places, and their sense of time. They begin to understand what happens over a day. They're aware of morning, afternoon, evening and night time.





Understanding the World Specific Area

There's diversity in all communities. The more experience children have of being out and about in their community the more they are able to understand their community and make a contribution.

Developing a child's understanding of a diverse world builds their knowledge of the world, about families, seasons and days of the week, places, days gone by, natural habitats and the built environment





Specific Area

Understanding the World

Ideas to support at home



- Explore different materials and talk about how they look, feel and what they can be used for
- Go to the park and discuss how the seasons make things change
- On your walk to school talk about the weather
- Enjoy a walk in the woods
- Use your garden to talk about local wildlife
- Encourage looking at information texts – books on space, animals, transport



Specific Area

Understanding the World

Ideas to support at home



- Share family photographs and explain who people are
- Explore people who help us- fire service, police, doctors, dentists, vets etc
- Talk about family holidays about the different cultures, food, religions
- Grow seeds or bulbs with your children and talk about each stage of growth



Specific Area

Expressive Art and Design

Expressive arts and design is one of the seven areas of the early years foundation stage and is used to develop a child's imagination, creativity and their ability to use media and materials.

Children do this in a range of ways including singing songs and making music, dancing, playing with colours, textures and design.

Artistic activities foster intellectual development and some of the benefits are:

Stimulation of both sides of the brain

Increased capacity of memory, attention and concentration

Further develops reading skills

Introduces new vocabulary and concepts.

Promotes self-esteem.

Helps children to express themselves.

Promotes working together and problem solving

Stimulates their creativity and imagination.





Specific Area

Expressive Art and Design

Ideas to support at home

- Encourage your child to make marks with pencils, feathers, chinks - either on paper, in sand, soil or on the pavement.
- Use all sorts of materials including boxes, tubes and cartons for your child to make a variety of models.
- Provide time, space and freedom for your child to explore playdough, cornflour, custard, sand or even mud.
- Provide natural materials such as shells, leaves, feathers, plants seeds and ice for your child to explore, touch and talk about them.
- Use small world toys to promote imaginative play and language.





Specific Area

Expressive Art and Design

Ideas to support at home

- Have fun printing with fruit or vegetables, hands and feet or a range of different objects
- Play different music from pop to classical, sing nursery rhymes and dance, move and clap to the beat.
- Use scarves and ribbons so your child can begin to move rhythmically
- Make sock puppets with your child and use these to talk with your child.
- Use old hats, scarves and clothes to promote dress up and imaginary role play





Any Questions?



Thank You!

