

Our Learning Journey in Saplings- Animals and Seasons - Spring 2023

In Saplings we follow the children's lead and interests in their play. For this age it is the most effective way of encouraging children's learning especially for the development of speech and language. Staff are responsive to the children's attempts at play and communication and join in with their play. Our curriculum gives our children new experiences to build on their play.

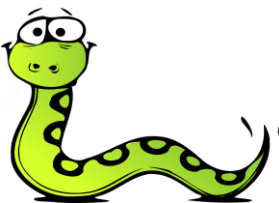
In Communication and language we will

- Listen to a focused simple story each week and understand what is happening with the help of pictures.
- provide real life experiences to encourage conversation to develop- Bird watching, observing tadpoles change, sensory play- Ice/snow, Mud
- Use themed chatterboxes - to introduce new words and help put words together- Dinosaur names, farm and new life.
- Develop pretend play- Small world and dinosaur animal play.



In Physical development we will

- Move like different animals- Slither like a snake, hop like a rabbit, gallop like a horse, stomp like a dinosaur.
- Practice rolling- A ball, ourselves or an egg.
- Try a range of different foods during snack time including different pancake toppings and Chinese food.
- Use sensory circuits
- Use appropriate tools to do a job outside/ inside- A spade to dig, a whisk to mix a pancake or scissors to cut.



List of focused books to be explored each week.

Making tracks- SNOW

Mr Wolf's Pancake

A busy day for birds.

Oi Frog

Chinese new- year

Elmer The Elephant

information books.

Jack and the bean stalk.

Dear Zoo

Noisy farm

Dinosaurs love underpants

For hints on sharing a book with your child go to:

[Wordsforlife.org.uk/parent-support/reading-your-child](https://www.wordsforlife.org.uk/parent-support/reading-your-child)

In Personal, Social & Emotional development we will be

- Safely exploring emotions beyond their normal range through play and stories- E.g being scared of the Lion in 'Dear Zoo,' or being cold and hungry in our ice den.
- Learning how to be a helpful member of our group through tidying up and clearing up our own snack things.
- Beginning to accept the needs of others through sharing and turn taking. How do we look after the birds or animals at the zoo.



