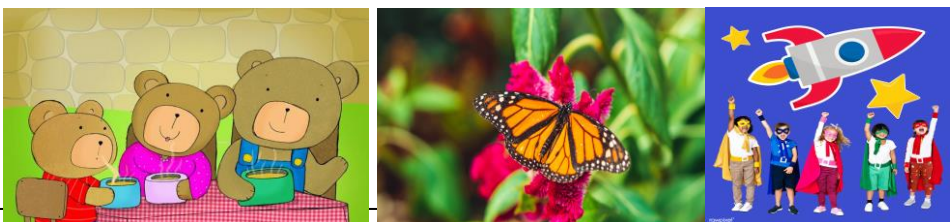


Our Learning Journey in Saplings - Familiar Tales & The Ocean (Summer 2023)

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.
- To provide real life experiences to encourage conversation to develop- Growing potatoes, looking for mini beasts, celebrating The King's Coronation. Sensory play- Sand, water, mud.
- Use themed chatterboxes - to introduce new words and help put words together- Pirate's treasure box, lifecycle of a butterfly, Holidays.
- Develop pretend play- Goldilock's cottage, Super hero rescue missions, Going on holiday.



In Physical development we will be

- Making large muscle movements as we use the parachute, ribbons or water painting.
- Building strength, control and coordination as we walk and run on the school field.
- Fit ourselves into spaces like tunnels, dens and boxes as we make boats, aeroplanes and buses to fit in and act out adventures.
- Use appropriate tools to do a job outside/ inside- A spade to dig, scissors to cut grass or herbs in the garden.



List of focused books to be explored each week.

- | | |
|---------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Goldilocks and The Three Bears, | Peace at last |
| The Three Little Pigs | Mr Gumpy's Outing |
| The Very Hungry Caterpillar | Touch and explore the ocean. |
| Super worm | Barry The Fish With Fingers. |
| The Three Billy Goat Gruff | 10 Little Pirates |
| | Spot goes on holiday |

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

- Confidently exploring our surroundings including the school field for picnics with the support of familiar adults.
- Making healthy choices about the food we eat as we sample Goldilock's porridge and make fruit kebabs for The Hungry Caterpillar.
- Safely exploring emotions beyond their range through play and stories. (Wolf, the scary bears, the hungry shark.)
- Growing in independence as we learn to put on our own coat and shoes, use the toilet and get ready for the transition to nursery.
- Playing turn taking games such as rolling a dice, playing hide and seek and blowing bubbles.



In Maths we will be

- Developing fast recognition of 3 objects, without having to count them individually, (Subitising)- 3 Bears, 3 Little Pigs, 3 Billy Goats Gruff.
- Building with a range of materials- A house for The 3 Little Pigs, a bridge for The 3 Billy Goat Gruffs.
- Noticing patterns on butterflies and caterpillars and using informal language to describe them.- Strippy, spotty.
- React to changes in a group - 5 Little Ducks, 10 Little Pirates.

In Understanding of the world we will be

- Explore changes around them gardening, jumping in puddles, digging up worms, bug hunting.
- Join in with customs- The King's Coronation, Father's day.
- Understand the key features of the life cycle of a butterfly and what a plant needs to grow.
- Explore and respond to the natural environment- Adding water to sand, digging in mud, smelling flowers and herbs.

In Expressive Arts and Design we will :

- Explore and enjoy making sounds- Play music along to rhymes.
- Explore paint using hands, fingers and other body parts as well as brushes.
- Dance and move to music as we pretend to turn from Caterpillars to Butterflies or be fish or sharks.
- Use props in our imaginative play in a role play shop or house.

In literacy we will be

- Learning Makaton signs and actions to songs.
- Identifying environmental sounds through playing sound games or going on sound walks.
- Developing a love of a favourite book and using quiet, communication friendly spaces to read them in outside.
- Making different marks (lines, circles) - Chalks, water, painting.

We will sing a new rhyme each week:

When Goldilocks went to the house of the bears.
This Little Piggy went to Market.
Sing a song a sixpence.
Little Arabella Millar
There's a worm at the bottom of the garden
Baa baa black sheep.
Teddy bear, teddy bear turn around
Row, row your boat
1,2,3,4,5 once I caught a fish alive
5 Little ducks
10 little pirates
5 Little fishes swimming in the sea.

How to help your child at home.

Speak and sing rhymes with your child

Play pretend games with your child letting them take the lead.

Share a book with your child.



ECAT- Every Child a talker

The Willows are part of a national strategy called ECAT. The purpose of ECAT is to:

1. Identifying and supporting who may be at risk of delay.
2. Developing the knowledge and skills of all the practitioners who work within the setting.
3. Helping parents to understand the stages of development of speech and language.

As part of ECAT we adopt a talking tip each term. This term our tip is: **Reduce the number of questions you ask your child. Instead comment on what your child is doing. (We always say.... 'Questions test, comments teach')**

A child's speech, language and communication skills will develop in stages. Although each child's development can be slightly different, children are expected to develop specific skills by a certain age.

Further information can be found at the following websites

- Westberksecat.info
- [Words for life](#)
- [Talking point](#)