Communication and Language

Listening and attention and understanding: We will continue to encourage the children to listen carefully to adults and other children and to share their experiences linked to zoo's, farms, pets and other animals. We hope they will be able to use their experiences to help their friends in learning more about animals.

We will work on our letter sounds, including learning how they are represented by different letters. We will practise good listening to, and 'sounding out' of letter sounds through our Little Wandle Phonics sessions.

We shall encourage the children to listen and join in with a range of stories, nursery rhymes and poems relating to our learning themes. The children will be encouraged to speak in sentences and to continue a two-way conversation to express their ideas and feelings. They will also be learning about the importance of listening to others and taking turns.

Speaking: Children will have opportunities to talk to others about their experiences related to our learning theme 'Animals'. There will be many speaking, listening and turn taking opportunities in the role play area.

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

Managing Self:

We continue to encourage the children to share to share wow moments (home learning milestones or at school) which they are proud of with their friends and teachers. It is lovely for us to see the progress that they are making, and we can see their confidence continually develop.

Building relationships:

We continue to develop these skills throughout the year, helping each other, playing together, sharing and taking turns in a group.

Self-regulation:

Being able to explain what happened and follow instructions is all part of developing independence for school readiness. Children will develop an awareness of the boundaries set, and of behavioural expectations in the setting.

Mathematics

Numbers: The children will make comparisons between quantities, practising the language more, less, the same, one more and one less. We shall be counting and comparing small groups of objects and matching the total to its corresponding digit. Children will be beginning to learn to recognise digits 1-5 and then 6-10 and beyond. Subitising is a crucial part of our early maths learning that will help build children's confidence in number. We are really focusing on using stem sentences which help deepen our reasoning during maths lessons. You can encourage your children to develop their mathematical thinking by looking out for numbers and shapes in the environment and asking your children questions about them.

Numerical Patterns: The children will learn about repeating patterns. They have already visited this, but we are consolidating this skill. Children will be encouraged to create or follow-on repeating patterns which involve 3 or 4 items. We have enjoyed making a fruit kebab repeating pattern which the children enjoyed eating their pattern once it was finished.

Expressive Arts and Design

Creating with materials: The children will be able to paint pictures of the animals from the story Noah's Ark. By doing this they will explore colour and how colours can be changed. They begin to understand that they can use lines to enclose a space, and then begin to use these shapes to represent objects. We will be painting jungle animal patterns and creating an animal out of clay, focusing on the features.

Being imaginative: Our classroom will have Jungle themed provision and we will also have opportunities to access a variety of small world play e.g. a jungle, a swamp, a farm and a pet shop.

FS1's learning experience

Summer Term

Learning theme: Animals

Fine Motor:

In our provision, the children have daily access to our 'Funky Fingers' table where there is a fun activity that builds strength and improves their dexterity skills. We also include fine motor activities within our topic, for example, picking up some jungle animals with a peg, cleaning the animals with a toothbrush and using small paintbrushes to reveal a hidden animal picture. Please continue these fine motor activities at home to develop their control which helps in writing activities.

Physical Development

Gross Motor:

In P.E this term, we are focusing on key skills such as jumping, skipping, rolling and controlling objects. In playful learning, the children have access to scooters, bikes and large objects they can run/throw. The children will play racing and chasing games with other children, learning how to negotiates space successfully, adjusting speed or changing direction to avoid obstacles.

Understanding of the World

People, cultures and communities:

In RE we will make links to our learning theme 'Animals', we will be sharing some stories from the Bible about animals. The children will learn about the story Noah's Ark. They will have opportunities to look at pictures of animals from the story and paint them.

The Natural World:

The children will learn about farms/jungles and where we can find information out about them. Do they have any ideas? i.e. Library, information books and story books (non-fiction/fiction), look on the computer/internet; Warwick Play Village.

The children will have an exciting opportunity to visit Warwick Play Village. This will give them a fantastic opportunity to develop their imagination and build their communication skills which will allow them to fully explore, investigate and experiment to make sense of real-life situations. We will also be doing a 'Signs of Spring' walk, where the children look at the seasonal changes in our school forest and outdoor area. They will be able take photographs of their findings using the I-Pads. The children will have opportunities to use BeeBot toys and mats. They will learn positional and directional words e.g. forwards, backwards, left and right. They will learn skills in making toys work by pressing parts or lifting flaps to achieve effects such as sound, movements or new images.

Literacy

Word Reading:

The children's 'Talk for Writing' text will be Walking Through the Jungle by Julie Lacome. We begin by reading the story and looking at the details in the pictures asking the children questions for example, what might happen next? We then create a story mountain using pictures from the story and learn Makaton actions to help us remember key details. They will have the opportunity to order the pictures from this story, alongside verbally retelling it to their peers.

Comprehension:

As the nursery children are now into the summer term, there will be a slight change to reading books. The children will either bring home a wordless book, a story sack or some sequencing cards. The sequencing cards are traditional tales such as 'Goldilocks and The Three Bears', so please encourage your child to sequence the cards in chronological order. However, the focus should be on retelling the story, enjoyment and being a storyteller. You may want to show them how to do this and then let them have a go depending on how confident your child feels. Please look after the story sacks and keep all the props together safely, let your child use these so they can enjoy retelling the story with you. The wordless books are about 'everyday things' such as posting a letter or going to the supermarket. Their purpose is to encourage story telling skills, so please encourage your children to retell their own stories using the wordless books and to talk about the pictures. Encourage your child to turn the pages independently.

Writing:

The children will practise forming the letters in their first name correctly, learning to start and finish their letters in the right place. Children who are ready will begin learning how to write their surname. Children will continue to practise and be reminded of how to hold their pencil using the correct grip. We will continue to learn a new letter name and its sound each week in one of our phonics sessions. The children will have opportunities to draw and label animals, practising writing the initial letter sounds They will use our phonics grapheme mats to look for the sounds that they need.