

Nursery Vocabulary Long Term Plan

Half-Term	Topic	2-Year-Old Vocabulary	3-Year-Old Vocabulary	4-Year-Old Vocabulary	Activities
Aut 1	Marvellous Me	Body parts, emotions, family members (head, hands, feet, happy, sad, mummy, daddy, baby, brother, sister)	Simple action words, adjectives for emotions (mouth, nose, arms, legs, tired, excited, scared, angry, laughing, crying)	More complex emotions, physical descriptors (worried, surprised, proud, nervous, calm, beautiful, strong, clever)	1. Body Part Song & Dance – Sing “Head, Shoulders, Knees, and Toes”. 2. Emotion Wheel – Use pictures of faces showing different emotions. 3. Dress-up Play – Encourage children to name clothes as they dress.
Aut 2	Our Wonderful World	Animals, nature, colours, weather (sun, rain, cloud, tree, flower, dog, cat, bird, red, yellow, green)	Weather terms, simple habitats, seasons (snow, windy, cold, hot, leaf, garden, forest, sea, jungle, pet, pond, big, small)	More specific animal names, features of the environment, natural materials (butterfly, river, desert, mountain, forest, hot, cold, wet, dry, animal habitats, rainforest, polar)	1. Weather Chart – Describe the weather daily. 2. Animal Sounds Game – Mimic animal sounds and match them to their names and habitats. 3. Nature Walk – Collect and describe leaves, twigs, and stones.
Spr 1	Once Upon a Time...	Basic characters, actions (king, queen, big, little, man, woman, happy, sad, run, jump, fall, sleep)	Key events in stories, simple characters and adjectives (wolf, princess, dragon, giant, ugly, kind, scared, brave, magic, wish, trick, clever)	Story sequence, feelings, character motivations, complex adjectives (happily ever after, poor, rich, good, bad, scared, surprised, mean, clever, funny, angry)	1. Puppet Play – Act out traditional tales using puppets. 2. Story Sequencing Cards – Put the story in order. 3. Dress-Up Role Play – Dress as fairy tale characters and engage in imaginative storytelling.
Spr 2	Reach for the Stars	Basic space objects, actions (moon, star, big, small, bright, up, down, fly, rocket)	Planet names, space travel, space-related verbs (planet, sun, rocket, space, travel, star, astronaut, sky)	Solar system, astronaut, spaceship, space exploration, descriptive terms (solar system, galaxy, universe, Mars, Earth, Saturn, telescope, spaceship, explore, launch)	1. Rocket Launch – Make and launch rockets. 2. Space Sensory Play – Create a galaxy sensory bin with glitter and blue rice. 3. Star Counting – Count stars with stickers or star shapes.
Sum 1	At the bottom of the garden	Simple minibeast names, basic plant parts (bug, worm, flower, leaf, big, little, green)	Features of plants, bug names, more descriptive language (ladybird, butterfly, beetle, stem, root, grow, bloom, garden)	Detailed minibeast names, plant life cycle, characteristics (caterpillar, butterfly, dragonfly, pollen, petals, soil, seed, roots, life cycle, leaf)	1. Planting Seeds – Plant seeds and observe growth. 2. Bug Hunt – Go on a bug hunt and name the minibeasts found. 3. Life Cycle Wheel – Create a wheel showing a butterfly's life cycle.
Sum 2	Roots, Shoots and Muddy Boots	Farm animals, food names (cow, pig, chicken, apple, banana, milk, eat, drink)	Farm jobs, more farm animals, food-related verbs (tractor, sheep, horse, feed, eggs, vegetables, farm, harvest)	Detailed food names, farm tools, farm-related activities (combine harvester, plow, carrot, lettuce, farmyard, grains, dairy, crops)	1. Farmyard Role Play – Use farm animals and tools in a role-play area. 2. Fruit and Veg Tasting – Taste and name fruits/vegetables. 3. Farmyard Sounds Game – Match farm animal sounds to their names.