





All Creatures Great and Small



This term, our learning will focus on animals and living things, exploring a range of exciting themes including pets, dinosaurs, sea creatures, jungle animals and minibeasts.

Class 1 Curriculum Overview- Summer Term 2026		
Special Events:		
A visit from a vet Parents' Evening Mental Health & Wellbeing Workshop Summer Trip to Lowther Castle		
Collective Worship Themes: Service and Thankfulness		
We will be hearing from Reverend Ann as she describes her recent visit to an orphanage in India.		
Prime Areas	 Communication and Language	Children will develop their speaking, listening and understanding skills through: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Talking about different animals and their features. Asking questions (e.g. when meeting visitors such as a vet). Sharing ideas and opinions (e.g. favourite animals). Learning and using new vocabulary linked to animals and habitats.
	 Personal, Social and Emotional	Children will continue to develop confidence and independence by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Showing care and empathy for animals and others. Understanding feelings (linked to stories and circle time). Developing resilience and independence when solving problems. Learning about keeping healthy (diet, hygiene, exercise).
	 Physical Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Children will use their bodies to explore our classroom themes of 'minibeasts', 'animals' and 'pets' through stories and movement. Preparation for Sports Day will also be a focus of our PE lessons with running, jumping and throwing activities. Balance bikes will also be a big focus through the summer term.
Specific Areas	 Literacy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reading a range of fiction and non-fiction texts about animals. Sharing stories such as dinosaur tales and sea creature adventures. Writing about favourite animals and experiences. In our Read, Write Inc phonics sessions, the children will consolidate their understanding of the Set 2 sounds, which include the following digraphs and trigraphs: ay (play), ee (tree), igh (high), ow (blow), oo (zoom), oo (book), ar (car), or (for), air (hair), ir (bird), ou (out) and oy (toy).
	 Maths	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This term, children will explore numbers beyond 10, learning to recognise teen numbers as "10 and some more". Children will practise counting forwards and backwards, as well as comparing numbers to understand which are greater or smaller. The children will also begin to develop their understanding of addition and subtraction through practical activities and real-life contexts. They will learn that addition means combining groups to make more, and subtraction means taking away. Children will explore how numbers can be made in different ways. They will use objects and visual representations to partition numbers and solve simple problems, explaining their thinking using mathematical language. We will explore 2D and 3D shapes as well as measuring length, time and capacity.

 <p>Understanding the World</p>	<p>This term, the children will become young explorers as they discover the amazing variety of animals in our world.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • They will learn about pets and how to care for them, as well as travel back in time to explore dinosaurs and life in the past. The children will dive under the sea to investigate fascinating sea creatures and their habitats, before heading into the jungle to learn about animals from around the world. • Through hands-on experiences, children will observe minibeasts in their natural habitats and explore the changing seasons. They will be encouraged to ask questions, make observations and develop a sense of curiosity about the world around them.
 <p>Expressive Art and Design</p>	<p>The children will explore their creativity as they bring the animal world to life through art, music and imaginative play.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • They will experiment with a range of materials to create animal artwork, including painting, collage and model making, such as clay animals and puppets. Children will explore colour, texture and pattern inspired by different creatures and their habitats. • Through music and movement, they will use their voices and bodies to represent animals, creating sounds, rhythms and actions linked to what they are learning. Imaginative role play will allow children to become vets, explorers and animal carers, developing their storytelling and creative thinking.



How You Can Support Learning at Home

- If you, a family member or friend has a pet, encourage your child to be involved in caring for it. Could they help to feed it? Play with it or clean it out? We would love to see any photos or drawings of this!
- Become **mini explorers** by going on a bug hunt in the garden or park—take a magnifying glass and see what you can find!
- Create a **small world animal habitat** at home using toys, boxes or natural materials (e.g. jungle, ocean, farm) and encourage storytelling and role play.
- Play **animal movement games**—can your child slither like a snake, stomp like an elephant or hop like a frog? Great for physical development too!
- Go on a **shape hunt**—look for 2D and 3D shapes in everyday objects (e.g. eggs as ovals, tins as cylinders).
- Sing **animal songs and rhymes** together and make up your own actions or sounds.
- **Read animal stories** and ask fun questions like “Which animal would you be and why?”