

# Reception 2025 - 2026 Medium Term Planning Autumn 2 Let's Celebrate



## Week 1 – (Inset day)

### Phonics –

In phonics this week we are learning the sounds for the graphemes ff, ll, ss, j. We will also be listening out for the final sounds in words such as 'puff, mess, tell'. Find some items around the house and ask your child to match them up to the grapheme which matches the final sound.

### Literacy – Rama and Sita

Read the story Rama and Sita the Story of Diwali  
Can you design a magical shield to help protect Rama whilst he is trying to rescue Sita from the demon king. Don't forget to add your code word to the drawing. Can you tell your grown up what happens when you say your code.

### Maths – One More/one less

Show 2 fingers, now add one more. How many do you have?  
Use a form of brick e.g. Duplo, Lega, Megablocks to create a 'one more' staircase. Each time you create another stair, add one more brick. Create a number line for under your staircase. What is one more than 3? Use staircase to check. Sing number rhymes such as 'Five Little Speckled Frogs' and 'Five Currant Buns'. Talk about how you are saying the number that is one less each time.

### Topic – Bonfire Night

Watch the video about bonfire safety [Bonfire Night Safety | Firework Safety for kids!](#) Create a firework picture by snipping the end of a toilet roll tube, dipping it on paint and printing on black paper.



### Science – Spiders and webs

Can you make your own spider web? What materials will you use? Use cotton wool as flies- does your web catch the flies?  
Work with a parent to construct a spider web choosing materials to add to the hula hoop. The web will have cotton wool balls/pom poms thrown at it (to represent insects)  
Children will need to think about the stickiness and the pattern they use to prevent the missiles passing through the web.

### Forest Friday –

Have a look at a selection of Mandala art. Collect natural items such as leaves, stones, petals, sticks, etc. Use them to create some Mandala art by making circular designs. Think about how you could create a symmetrical design or a pattern using your materials.

### Vocabulary –

Guy Fawkes, fireworks, safety, one more, one less, next, after, spider, stickiness, prevent, seeds, roots, leaves, stem, plant, flower, bud, juicy, sweet, sour, dry, wet, bitter, chewy, watery

## Week 2 – Nursery Rhyme Week/ Children in Need/Anti bullying week

**Phonics** – In phonics this week we are learning the sounds for the graphemes v, w, x, y. We will also be listening out for the initial sounds in words such as van, wig, yoghurt'. Find some items around the house and ask your child to match them up to the grapheme which matches the initial sound.

### Literacy – Aaaaarrgghh Spider

Read Aaaaarrgghh Spider  
Would you like a spider for a pet? Draw a picture of what you would like for your pet? Write underneath what animal it is and its name. Don't forget your codes.

### Maths – Composition of 1, 2, 3

Using 2 colours of items e.g. Lego bricks create the number 4. How many of each colour brick are there. There are 2 blue bricks and 2 yellow. Can you make 4 in a different way e.g. 3 blue and 1 yellow. Repeat making the number 5.

### Topic – The Best Pumpkin Soup

Read the story [The-best-pumpkin-soup.pdf](#). Get a spoon and a bowl and act out the story. Did you have a pumpkin at Halloween? Talk about how the insides felt.

### Science – Gummy worm experiment

Cut the jelly worms in half to make them lighter. Next, mix 3 tablespoons of baking soda into a cup of water. Put your skinny gummy worms into the baking soda water and let them soak for 15 minutes. As they soak, the worms will create lots of bubbles, so we can talk about how we could see gas inside of the liquid, too. After 15 minutes, scoop out the worms and put them into a clear cup of vinegar. Caution: less is more here when it comes to the number of worms More waiting! The magic doesn't happen instantly...but it's worth the wait! Then comes the fun part! The worms start to move and "dance" in the vinegar.

### Forest Friday –

Sing the nursery rhyme 'Incy Wincy Spider'. Have an explore outside and see what 'creepy crawlies' you can find. Collect them carefully to take a closer look. What can you see? How many legs does it have? Does it have wings? How does it move? What does it eat?

### Vocabulary –

Pumpkin, heavy, bumpy, rough, smooth, hard, spiky, big, huge, orange, soft, seedy, squashy, stringy, wet, slimy, squelchy, hollow, before, gas, liquid, reaction, different, amount

## Week 3 –

### Phonics –

In phonics this week we are learning the sounds for the graphemes z, qu and ch. We will also be learning to read 'tricky words' on sight such as go, no and to.

### Literacy – Percy the Park Keeper After the Storm

Read Percy the Park Keeper after the Storm  
The storm has blown down the great oak tree where the animals lived. Can you design a new house for them. What will their new house look like? Write your code underneath and tell your grown up what happens when you say your code.

### Maths – Circles and triangles

Look at a picture created using lots of different shapes e.g. a boat, a rocket, a house. What shapes can you see in the picture? How many triangles can you see?  
Encourage your child to create their own picture using 2d shapes and describe it.

### Topic – Designing Soup

Recap 'The Best Pumpkin Soup'. What vegetables did the animals use for the soup? What Vegetables (or fruits) would you put in your soup? Use the sheet [My-Soup-Design-.pdf](#) to design your own soup.

### Science – Creepy crawlies in Ice

Freeze some creepy crawlies in ice (plastic not real) Provide children with a range of tools and materials so they can notice what happens to the ice.  
e.g. salt, small hammers, own hands, warm water, cold water, cotton wool, torches. Can your child suggest how they think each material will work to get the creepy crawlies out of the ice?

### Forest Friday –

Collect a selection of colourful autumn leaves from your walks and use them to create a firework picture on black paper.

**Vocabulary** – nursery rhyme, sing, spout, winder, ice, salt, estimate, legs, wings, circle, triangle, sides, corners, how many, carrot, sweetcorn, garlic, onion, potato, leek, spinach, peas, pumpkin, butternut squash, broccoli

## Week 4 -

### Phonics -

In phonics this week we are learning the sounds for the graphemes sh, th, ng, nk. We will also be blending words such as 'shell, ring, pink. 'Ask your child for an object by saying to phonemes. Can they blend the word and find what you are searching for e.g. 'Can you get a sh e ll?'

### Literacy - Leaf Man

Read the story Leaf Man

Imagine the wind blew Leaf Man all the way to another planet. what does the planet look like? Are there lots of other leaves there? Draw a picture of the planet. Don't forget your code word. Can you tell a grown up what happens when you say your code word?

### Maths - Shapes in the environment/position

Go on a shape hunt within your house. What circles and triangles can you find? Maybe you have a circular mirror or a triangle chocolate. How many sides does each shape have? How many corners? Can you find circles and triangles as you go on a walk outside?

### Topic - Making soup

Look at the soup recipe you created last week. Gather the ingredients you need and encourage your child to chop the fruits and vegetables carefully using a child safe knife. Put the items in a pan with some liquid and cook for approx. 15 minutes. Now add the items to the blender and blend. Pour a small amount into a bowl and taste. Do they like it? What would they change if they made it again?

### Science - Candy Cane Surprise

Ask children what comes to mind when they hear the word Christmas? Read [The Empty Stocking by Richard Curtis - YouTube](#) Candy cane surprise experiment. Ypu will need:

- 1 box of baking soda
- 1 bottle of vinegar
- food colouring
- candy canes
- tray - use a cookie sheet!
- [pippette](#), squeeze bottles, or spoons

First, spread baking soda on a baking sheet. Then place candy canes on top. Next, pour vinegar into a cup and mix with food colouring. Then you can have your child use a dropper or spoon to drop the vinegar mix on top of the baking soda. It looks so festive and colourful!

The candy canes won't do much but if you leave it for an hour and come back to it the children will see that the candy canes have totally dissolved.

### Forest Friday -

Create some nature soup. Gather things from your garden or out on a walk and create your own soup. Put leaves, stones, acorns, etc. in a bowl and stir.

**Vocabulary -** Saucepan, blender knife, chopping board, hob, boil, blend, mix, soup, creamy, sweet, sour, dry, wet, watery, delicious, reaction, vinegar, leaves, colours, shape, circle, triangle

## Week 5 -

### Phonics -

In phonics this week we are reading words ending in s. and blending CVC words such as 'We will also be learning to read 'tricky words' on sight such as we, me, be, she.

### Literacy - Percy the Park Keeper - One Snowy Night

Read Percy the Park Keeper One Snowy Night.

There is a loud crash and bang outside then someone knocks at Percy's door. Who is it knocking at the door? What do they want? Draw a picture of who is outside? Don't forget to add your code word underneath.

### Maths - 4 and 5

Collect items to 5 and a fly swatter/toy hammer, numbers to 5 written on paper. Hide a number of items under a sheet/towel. Quickly show the items before hiding them again. Can your child subitise the amount (without counting) and swat/hit the correct number as quick as they can.

### Topic - Calendars

This week in school we will be making our calendars for next year. If you are at home you could make your own advent calendar ready for the 1<sup>st</sup> December. Use the template to create your own calendar. [T-T-384-Design-an-advent-calendar-activity\\_ver\\_3.pdf](#) Think about what pictures you could add under each number.

### Science - Snow Making

To make snow- you will need **Baking Soda** and **White Hair Conditioner**. After making the fake snow, it can be packaged in a zip lock bag and stored in a cool area for up to five days. **One:** In a large bowl mix 2 1/2 cups of baking soda with 1/2 a cup of white hair conditioner. **Two:** Stir mixture in large bowl until ingredients are well combined.

**Tip:** You can add more baking soda if you wish to make your "snow" less wet if you'd like. If you need to make a larger batch of snow you can easily multiply this recipe. Can your child make a snow man using their snow

### Forest Friday -

Look at the environment and talk about what has happened to it now the seasons are changing. Talk about how animals might find food in winter. Put fat onto a toilet roll tube and roll it in bird seed. Add some string and hang it in the tree for the birds.

**Vocabulary -** combine, environment, seasons, birds, calendar, advent, weather, five, four, subitise.

## Week 6 - (Christmas show)

### Phonics -

In phonics this week we are recapping the learning we have been doing within phonics. Have a look at the sounds we have been learning this term and practice the ones that your child finds difficult.

### Literacy - Dear Santa

Read Dear Santa

We need to send the presents back to Santa. Can you invent something to get them all back super quick. Draw a picture of your invention. What does it look like, is it really fast? Don't forget to write your word code underneath.

### Maths - Composition of 4 and 5

Collect 4/5 pebbles and 2 pots/buckets. Encourage your child to explore the different ways to share out the pebbles. How many ways can you share the pebbles between the 2 pots/buckets.

### Topic - Christmas show

In school we will be performing our Christmas show. Practise the songs at home. Sing some Christmas songs together with your family.

### Science - Curly Wurly Experiment

Get yourselves a 'Curly Wurly' chocolate bar. Youe challenge is to see how long you can stretch it. Encourage your child to think about what it needs to be like for it to be stretchable.

### Forest Friday -

Take a walk in the outdoor environment and collect 3 small sticks. Stick them together to create a triangle for a Christmas tree. Use different colours of wool and wrap it around the triangle to create a Christmas Tree decoration.

### Vocabulary -

Before after, today, tomorrow, night, day, list, comparison, stretch, long, short,

## Week 7- (Christmas jumper day, Christmas party)

### Phonics -

In phonics this week we are recapping the learning we have been doing within phonics. Have a look at the sounds we have been learning this term and practice the ones that your child finds difficult.

### Literacy - Jolly Postman

Read the Jolly Postman

The Jolly Postman is having a cup of tea and a slice of cake with Santa in his workshop. What does Santas workshop look like? Draw a picture of Santas workshop and add your code word at the end.

### Maths - Shapes with 4 sides

Collect some paint, paper and different sized lego bricks. Which bricks make the best square and rectangle pictures? Encourage children print with the bricks, filling the paper edge-to-edge with their squares and rectangles.

### Topic - Christmas Cards

This week in school we will be making Christmas cards. If you are at home you could design your own Christmas card. What makes you think of Christmas? Use this idea to make your own cards. Follow the link for an idea if you are unsure. [winter-silhouette-christmas-card-instructions-.pdf](#)

### Science - Baking

We are going to make some Christmas biscuits. Look at the recipe and collect together the ingredients needed. Follow the recipe to make the biscuits. Ask an adult to help with weighing the ingredients and using the cooker. Roll out the dough and use a Christmas cutter. When the biscuits are baked and cooled then decorate with icing and sprinkles. Then enjoy!

### Forest Friday -

Create a Christmas scavenger hunt based on the 12 days of Christmas! Go for a walk and try to tick off all of the things on your list. I wonder if you can find 5 angels, 12 Christmas Trees and 2 stars!

**Vocabulary -** baking, measuring, weigh, mix, roll, cutter, temperature, sides, corners, square, rectangle, card, Christmas,

