

## Understanding the world

This term we will be thinking about life on a farmyard. We will start by naming different animals and their young. We will try to match sounds to the animals that make them and have a go at copying them using our voices and simple instruments. We will think about where food comes from, which we like and which we do not. We will think about how to care for our chicks, and other animals, at home and in the wild. In the second half term, Ian will visit with his baby farm animals for first-hand experience. Finally, we will look for signs of spring and explore the growing wilderness area.

## Literacy

We will look at a number of books about animals and farms including “The Three Little Pigs”, “Farmyard Hullabaloo” and “The Little Red Hen”. We will learn how to retell these stories and act them out using puppets and props. We will begin to label simple animals such as “dog” and “cat”, either by writing the word or the first letter. We will continue to learn sounds in phonics and begin to apply our knowledge to reading simple CVC words. We will continue our work on name formation by copying under an adult’s writing and having a go by ourselves.

## PSE Development

We will start the term by welcoming our new starters to the unit! We will remind ourselves of our class rules and expectations of behaviour. We will continue to play games involving taking turns and sharing and we will emphasize how to be kind to our new friends. As part of our topic, we will think about how to look after animals both at home and in the wild. We will start to look after our garden outside by planting fruit and vegetables ready for summer. We will continue to think about how to keep safe and hygienic.

## Down on the Farm

### Lower Foundation Spring



## Physical

We will continue to enjoy a range of activities designed to develop our gross and fine motor skills. We will begin to use pencils with more control, copying over and under an adult’s writing. We will begin to form curly caterpillar letters on paper which will help us to form some simple words. Outside, we will continue to develop our throwing, catching, kicking and climbing skills and we will become more independent when dressing and changing our shoes.

## Expressive Arts

Children will be introduced to simple percussion instruments. We will learn their names and how to play them before using them to copy simple beats and rhythms. We will also use them to create animal noises that we might hear down on the farm! We will create a number of farmyard pictures using a variety of media including paints, crayons and chinks. We will also use construction materials to build homes for the Three Little Pigs to keep them safe from the Big Bad Wolf. Finally, we will make scarecrows to use in our school garden.

## Mathematics

Children will continue looking at numbers 1-10 this term. We will continue our work on accurate counting by pointing to objects in turn, and we will have a go at forming numbers to show the total amount in a group. We will continue to develop our number recognition skills by playing lots of games and going on number hunts both inside and outside the classroom! We will group animals in different ways, showing that the number of sheep stays the same no matter if you have 1 sheep pen or 4 sheep pens! We will begin to develop our positional language knowledge by talking about where the animals are hiding, for example, under the table. Finally we will learn lots of number songs, particularly relating to animals and farms!