

# What is happening in the Early Years this autumn half term? (Weeks 3 to 7)

## Communication & Language

Listening to and discussing the Owl Babies story (and Goldilocks) and retelling using props to support vocabulary and understanding.  
Discuss words that describe how Bill the owl might have been feeling.

**Extending vocabulary around the changing seasons, autumn objects, owls, nocturnal and woodland animals.**

(Plus, continuous work on learning to listen and to follow instructions, talking to new adults and friends, holding conversations, listening to and talking about stories and non-fiction books to support vocabulary.)

## Literacy

Reading the Owl Babies story and retelling by learning phrases from the book, acting out and making puppets.

Writing a letter to Bill the baby owl.

Looking at information books about autumn, owls and other nocturnal animals.

Practising letter formation.

Name writing.

Letter sound hunt.

Listening for and writing letter sounds.

**Learning and performing a rhyme**

(Plus, continuous work in **Phonics** (Phase 2), whole class and individual reading and enjoying and responding to stories.)

## Mathematics

Comparing amounts

Which set has more/the most? Which has fewer?

Are any equal?

Represent, subitise and compare 1,2 and 3

Match to numeral to objects and Numicon tiles.

Number hunts outside

Counting out from a larger group

Exploring 1 more and 1 less.

Repeating patterns

Copying and continuing patterns i.e., stick, conker, stick, conker

Comparing size

Using owls and Goldilocks.

Language larger, smaller, taller, shorter

## Expressive Arts & Design

Making play dough owls and a hedgehog family.

Making a paper plate owl

Using different materials to make a collage owl

Collecting and then making pictures from leaves

Using fingers, sponges, corks to print autumn trees using autumn colours.

Mix an autumn potion.

Build a nocturnal animal den.

(Plus, singing and performing songs, rhymes and poems, using musical instruments, continuous access to the role play kitchen area, small world resources for storytelling, construction kits for building and to the resources in the creative area.)

## Autumn/Owl Babies



## Physical Development

Pinch pens, draw vertical lines on boards

Tracing anticlockwise owls.

Using scissors to cut out nocturnal animals to make night time scene.

Use hammer to tap spikes into potato hedgehog

Paper snipping card hedgehog.

**Weekly P.E sessions**

(Plus, continuous work on developing scissors skills and pencil/paintbrush control, developing fine motor skills in the finger gym and the playdough area and with colouring and tracing and access to large and small apparatus indoors and out.)

## Personal, Social and Emotional Development

Simple rules and turn taking when playing a game.

How do you think Bill was feeling? Have you ever felt worried?

Work together to build an obstacle course through the woods.

(Plus continuous work on understanding routines, boundaries and expectations in the classroom including listening to adults, playing cooperatively, taking turns and treating each other with kindness. The children are encouraged to always 'try their best' and to 'have a go' and also to talk about their feelings. We also support independence when toileting, washing hands, dressing, zipping coats etc.)

## Understanding the World

Looking at the colours of Autumn leaves and changes through the seasons.

Finding out about owls and how they live.

Follow a map of the outside classroom to find mummy owl.

Talking about nocturnal animals

Accessing our autumn investigation area