

**Foundation Stage Medium Term Planning**  
**Summer 1**  
**How does your garden grow?**

**Communication and Language**

**ELG 1 Listening & Attention**

**30 to 50 months**

Listens to stories with increasing attention and recall.  
Joins in with repeated refrains and anticipates key events and phrases in rhymes and stories.

**40 to 60+ months**

**ELG 2 Understanding**

**30 to 50 months**

Understands use of objects (e.g. "What do we use to cut things?")

**40 to 60+ months**

Able to follow a story without pictures or props.  
Listens and responds to ideas expressed by others in conversation or discussion.

**ELG 3 Speaking**

**30 to 50 months**

Can retell a simple past event in correct order (e.g. went down slide, hurt finger).

Uses talk to connect ideas, explain what is happening and anticipate what might happen next, recall and relive past experiences.

Questions why things happen and gives explanations. Asks e.g. who, what, when, how.

Uses intonation, rhythm and phrasing to make the meaning clear to others.

Uses vocabulary focused on objects and people that are of particular importance to them.

Builds up vocabulary that reflects the breadth of their experiences.

Uses talk in pretending that objects stand for something else in play, e.g. 'This box is my castle.'

**40 to 60+ months**

Extends vocabulary, especially by grouping and naming, exploring the meaning and sounds of new words.

Uses language to imagine and recreate roles and experiences in play situations.

Links statements and sticks to a main theme or intention.

Uses talk to organise, sequence and clarify thinking, ideas, feelings and events.

Introduces a storyline or narrative into their play.

**Activities**

Reading fiction and non fiction books re gardening and growing

Joining in with stories with repeated refrains etc.

Play in role play and small world areas

Talk about any trips to the garden centre they have been on

Share ideas re things that grow/ different plants and flowers/ what we use different tools for etc.

Work with talk partners

**Texts**

The gigantic turnip by Aleksai Tolstoy and Niamh Sharkey

Ten seeds by Ruth Brown

Jim and the Beanstalk by Raymond Briggs

Edie's Garden by Sarah Garland

Jasper's Beanstalk by Nick Butterworth

**How does your garden grow?**

**Question:** *What do plants need to grow?*

In this topic, we will learn about things that grow. We will sort seeds, bulbs and plug plants and have the opportunity to plant some of these. We will be shown how to use different tools and have the opportunity to use these. We will find out what plants need to grow and experiment by not giving some of them water, light or both.

We will plant our own seeds and record what we see. We will make lists of instructions for another child to follow when planting, and captions to explain how to look after our seeds/ plants.

We will take photographs of our plants and talk about what we see and know.

We will find out information about growing, garden centres etc. through sharing experiences, reading books and getting information from computers. We will sequence stories we have heard and talk about the beginning, middle and end. We will retell narratives using vocabulary we have read and heard.

We will play and learn in role play and small world areas, learning and using new vocabulary and acting out storylines we have learned and roles we have observed.

We will draw and paint flowers and plants, and make our own props such as plant pots, plants and tools.



## Physical Development

### **ELG 4 Moving and handling**

#### **30 to 50 months**

Uses one-handed tools and equipment, e.g. makes snips in paper with child scissors.

#### **40 to 60+ months**

Shows increasing control over an object in pushing, patting, throwing, catching or kicking it.

Uses simple tools to effect changes to materials.

Handles tools, objects, construction and malleable materials safely and with increasing control.

### **ELG 5 Health and self-care**

#### **30 to 50 months**

Understands that equipment and tools have to be used safely.

Can usually manage washing and drying hands.

#### **40 to 60+ months**

Shows understanding of the need for safety when tackling new challenges, and considers and manages some risks.

Shows understanding of how to transport and store equipment safely.

Practices some appropriate safety measures without direct supervision.

#### **Activities**

Using a variety of tools to dig and plant seeds/ bulbs/ plants

Using tools in role play/ sand/ water etc.

Using different tools in their drawing and painting of plants and flowers

Using different tools to construct flowers using a variety of materials such as pipe cleaners

Using scissors and other tools to make flowers/ plant pots etc.

Is taught how to wash hands carefully and knows the importance of hygiene

Is taught how to use different tools carefully and appropriately through

## Personal Social & Emotional Development

### **ELG 6 Self-confidence and self-awareness**

#### **30 to 50 months**

Can select and use activities and resources with help.

#### **40 to 60+ months**

Confident to speak to others about own needs, wants, interests and opinions.

### **ELG 7 Managing feelings & Behaviour**

#### **ELG 8 Making Relationships**

#### **30 to 50 months**

Can play in a group, extending and elaborating play ideas, e.g. building up a role-play activity with other children.

Keeps play going by responding to what others are saying or doing.

#### **40 60+ months**

Initiates conversations, attends to and takes account of what others say.

Explains own knowledge and understanding, and asks appropriate questions of others.

#### **Activities**

Playing and learning in the small world and role play areas

Observe teacher modelling in role play and small world areas

Children share information about their visits to garden centres, planting and gardening activities

Children take home a bulb to plant with their families, and share how they look after it with their peers

## Literacy

### **ELG 9 Reading**

#### **30 to 50 months**

Enjoys rhyming and rhythmic activities.

Shows awareness of rhyme and alliteration.

Recognises rhythm in spoken words.

Listens to and joins in with stories and poems, one-to-one and also in small groups.

Joins in with repeated refrains and anticipates key events and phrases in rhymes and stories.

Beginning to be aware of the way stories are structured.

Suggests how the story might end.

Listens to stories with increasing attention and recall.

Describes main story settings, events and principal characters.

Shows interest in illustrations and print in books and print in the environment.

Recognises familiar words and signs such as own name and advertising logos.

Looks at books independently.

Handles books carefully.

Knows information can be relayed in the form of print.

Holds books the correct way up and turns pages.

Knows that print carries meaning and, in English, is read from left to right and top to bottom.

#### **40 to 60+ months**

Continues a rhyming string.

Links sounds to letters, naming and sounding the letters of the alphabet.

Begins to read words and simple sentences.

Uses vocabulary and forms of speech that are increasingly influenced by their experiences of books.

Enjoys an increasing range of books.

Knows that information can be retrieved from books and computers.

### **ELG 10 Writing**

#### **30 to 50 months**

#### **40 to 60+ months**

Begins to break the flow of speech into words.

Continues a rhyming string.

Writes own name and other things such as labels, captions.

Attempts to write short sentences in meaningful contexts.

#### **Activities**

Write narratives in responses to stories

Talk about the beginning, middle and end of a story- write a sentence from the beginning, middle and end of the story

Sequence a story

Write speech in speech bubbles

Talk about what they know about planting/ things that grow

Write their experiences of visiting a garden centre/ planting etc.

Make signs for taking care of their plants

Make a list of instructions for planting a seed/ bulb

Make a list of vegetables or fruit

Write a record of how their seed grows

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## Expressive arts and design

### **ELG 16 Exploring & Using Media and Materials**

#### **30 to 50 months**

Sings a few familiar songs.  
Explores colour and how colours can be changed.  
Understands that they can use lines to enclose a space, and then begin to use these shapes to represent objects.  
Beginning to be interested in and describe the texture of things.  
Realises tools can be used for a purpose.

#### **40 to 60+ months**

Explores what happens when they mix colours.  
Experiments to create different textures.  
Understands that different media can be combined to create new effects.  
Manipulates materials to achieve a planned effect.  
Constructs with a purpose in mind, using a variety of resources.  
Uses simple tools and techniques competently and appropriately.  
Selects appropriate resources and adapts work where necessary.  
Selects tools and techniques needed to shape, assemble and join materials they are using.

### **ELG 17 Being Imaginative**

#### **30 to 50 months**

Developing preferences for forms of expression.  
Uses movement to express feelings..  
Engages in imaginative role-play based on own first-hand experiences.  
Builds stories around toys, e.g. farm animals needing rescue from an armchair 'cliff'.  
Uses available resources to create props to support role-play.

#### **40 to 60+ months**

Create simple representations of events, people and objects.  
Initiates new combinations of movement and gesture in order to express and respond to feelings, ideas and experiences.  
Chooses particular colours to use for a purpose.  
Introduces a storyline or narrative into their play.  
Plays alongside other children who are engaged in the same theme.  
Plays cooperatively as part of a group to develop and act out a narrative.

#### **Activities**

Make own representations of flowers/ plants using chosen materials such as felt, tissue, pipe cleaners etc.  
Use paint/ crayons/ felt tips etc. to draw their own flowers etc.  
Decorate a plant pot  
Help to set up role play and small world activities  
Join in modelled role play of garden centres, planting activities etc.  
Make own props e.g. forks, spades, flowers, plant pots etc.  
Sing/ learn songs e.g. Mary, Mary Quite Contrary, Flowers that grow in the garden dance in the sun, the farmer comes to scatter the seed etc.

## Understanding the World

### **ELG 13 People and Communities**

#### **30 to 50 months**

Remembers and talks about significant events in their own experiences.  
Recognises and describes special times or events for family or friends.  
Shows interest in different occupations and ways of life.

### **ELG 14 The World**

#### **30 to 50 months**

Comments and asks questions about aspects of their familiar world such as the place where they live or the natural world.  
Can talk about some of the things they have observed such as plants, animals, natural and found objects.  
Talks about why things happen and how things work.  
Developing an understanding of growth, decay and changes over time.  
Shows care and concern for living things and the environment.

#### **40 to 60+ months**

Looks closely at similarities, differences, patterns and change.

### **ELG 15 Technology**

#### **30 to 50 months**

Knows how to operate simple equipment.

#### **Activities**

Take photographs of plants/ trees/ seeds/ bulbs etc.  
Observe and describe changes in their plants/ seeds etc.  
Develop vocabulary through modelled role play and small world  
Plant their own seeds/ bulbs/ plants  
Look at information in books and on computers-  
Talk about the changes to the environment/ plants etc. throughout the different seasons  
Talk about/ observe what happens to plants when they do not have light, water, or both  
Talk about what a plant needs to grow