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| **The development of children’s spoken language underpins all seven areas of learning and development. Children’s back-and-forth interactions from an early age form the foundations for language and cognitive development. The number and quality of the conversations they have with adults and peers throughout the day in a language-rich environment is crucial. By commenting on what children are interested in or doing, and echoing back what they say with new vocabulary added, practitioners will build children's language effectively. Reading frequently to children, and engaging them actively in stories, non-fiction, rhymes and poems, and then providing them with extensive opportunities to use and embed new words in a range of contexts, will give children the opportunity to thrive. Through conversation, story-telling and role play, where children share their ideas with support and modelling from their teacher, and sensitive questioning that invites them to elaborate, children become comfortable using a rich range of vocabulary and language structures.** |

**Reception Curriculum – Communication and Language**

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|  | **Autumn 1** | **Autumn 2** | **Spring 1** | **Spring 2** | **Summer 1** | **Summer 2** |
|  | Welcome to Reception! | Celebrations | Traditional Tales | Where we live | The Rainforest | Castles |
| **Listening, Attention and Understanding** | Begin to sit and listen for gradually longer periods of time.  Follow simple instructions.  Enjoy a growing range of stories, poems, rhymes and non-fiction texts, and be able to talk about or retell some of these. | Listen attentively to a story in a group or whole class situation.  Join in with simple stories with actions or by saying key phrases. | Respond appropriately to questions with relevant answers.  Follow instructions with more than one step. | Further develop turn-taking skills in 1:1 and group discussions. | Engage in small group and discussions.  Ask simple questions to clarify their understanding. | Engage in whole class discussions, taking turns to speak/ listen.  Ask and answer simple questions about what they have heard appropriately. |
| **Speaking** | Participate in 1:1 discussions with their friends and teachers.  Start to learn and use new vocabulary when speaking to others. | Begin to share their ideas.  Confidently talk about what they are doing in the present tense. | Participate in group discussions.  Talk about why things might happen.  Speak in full sentences.  Begin to retell simple events from stories in the past tense. | Talk about the past, using the past tense correctly. | Participate in group and whole class discussions.  Talk about their experiences and ideas in more detail, using recently introduced vocabulary.  Use the future tense accurately. | Participate happily in 1:1, group and whole class discussions. Talk about their ideas and experiences in full sentences, using the correct tense. |