

Literacy

Our next literacy topic will see us create our own *My Amazing Body* books. We will explore books like *You're So Amazing!* by James and Lucy Catchpole and *Amazing* by Steve Antony and think about the way that information books present facts. We will be focussing on writing on lines and making sure we finish sentences with full stops, as well as starting to correct mistakes which we spot in our own work. Make sure you look out for the books we make at our next *Stay and Play!*

Expressive Arts and Design

We will be developing our teamwork and co-operation skills when acting out stories and using construction materials. Our focus artist for the half-term will be Jackson Pollock, and we will be looking carefully at his work and having a go at creating our own splatty paintings! We will do lots of dancing, thinking about the ways in which our bodies move.

Physical Development

In our weekly PE sessions with Mr Butler, we will continue to develop our coordination and spatial awareness, finding space, moving in different ways and travelling and stopping with control.

In class, meanwhile, we will be developing our fine motor skills, focussing in particular on correct letter formation, and will have lots of opportunities for mark-making throughout the day.

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

We will be developing our turn taking-skills, playing lots of group games and acting out stories together, as well as learning to follow instructions that include several different steps. We will also be building our independence, choosing resources, making decisions and changing clothes on our own.

Communication and Language

This term we will be developing our use of conjunctions whilst speaking, using words like *and*, *when*, *if* and *because* to link our ideas together. Linked to our topic, we will be talking about our lives and our bodies, extending our vocabulary and thinking about the ways in which we are all similar and the ways we are all unique. We will also work on using the past tense correctly to talk about things that we have done. Throughout the term, we will continue to work on our listening and questioning skills, asking and responding to *how* and *why* questions linked both to class stories and our independent play.

This half-term, we'll be learning about...



MY AMAZING SELF!

RECEPTION - SUMMER 2026

Mathematics

As we continue with our *Essentials for Counting* programme, we will be developing our understanding of finding totals, developing our use of part-part-whole models to find the missing part and then turning these calculations into written addition and subtraction facts. We will begin to split teen numbers into 'ten and some more' (eg. 17 is 10 + 7) to support our understanding. Later in the term, we will be collecting our own data to answer questions such as 'How many children like bananas?' and thinking about different ways in which we could present this information. Throughout the term we will continue to do lots of counting, extending the range of numbers we know and can recognise.

Understanding the world

Linked to our topic, we will have lots of opportunities to talk about our amazing bodies, thinking about the way they change when we do lots of exercise, are cold, hungry or tired. We will think about the food that we eat, starting to recognise that some food is healthier than others, and that we need a wide range of foods in our diet. We will also develop our scientific vocabulary, using words like lungs, brain and skeleton correctly when talking about our bodies. We will also be learning about different places in the world, especially those where we have family links. We will use lots of photos and video clips to help us to start thinking about the ways in which these places are similar and different to Stevenage.

Literacy

- Constant practice of reading and phonics is just about the most valuable thing you can do at home. Try to read with your child as often as possible and talk to them about what you've read.
- We follow the Read Write Inc phonics programme, and they have guidance on supporting your child at home: www.ruthmiskin.com/en/find-out-more/parents/

Expressive Arts and Design

- Act out stories together, sing and dance to favourite songs or encourage your child to tell you stories linked to their play.
- Talk about what your child has made at school and encourage them to describe the way they made it to you - and maybe have a go at making something similar together at home.

Physical Development

- Build an obstacle course in the park or garden together, running (carefully) around benches or chairs, crawling under blankets and clambering through cardboard boxes.
- Play games together that involve kicking, throwing and catching balls.
- Encourage your child to get dressed on their own and brush their teeth twice a day.

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

- Play turn-taking games together, and support your child in learning to wait for their turn and listen to others.
- Encourage your child to talk about their feelings - can they name the emotion? What does it 'feel like' inside? What has made them feel that way?

Ideas for supporting learning at home:



MY AMAZING SELF!

RECEPTION - SUMMER 2026

Mathematics

- Keep practicing counting, whenever and wherever possible - you could count houses on the way to school, footsteps on the way to bed, shoes in the house, objects in the shopping trolley, claps, nods... Anything and everything you can think of!
- Practice writing numbers in sand, salt or water, or try making numbers out of groups of pebbles.
- Compare groups of objects to find which is larger - are there more toys in the box or on the floor? Do we have more teddies or cars? Practice counting out the number in the group and use the language of *more*, *less* and *equal* to compare them.

Communication and Language

- We will continue to use Tapestry to share work that we have done in school and share ideas for learning beyond school. You can log in, view work and add comments and pictures at eylj.org. Speak to a member of staff if you're not sure about how to log in.
- Visit the library and see what books you can find that your child recognises already. Are there any they can retell? It's quick and easy to sign-up, and you can access a huge number of free ebooks and audiobooks. www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/services/libraries-and-archives

Understanding the world

- Talk about your family and the people in it. Look at pictures of people when they were younger and talk about the way that we change as we grow up and get older. You could even try making your own family tree together to show how everyone is related.
- Share pictures of other places or countries you have visited - how are these places similar to our local area? How are they different? What did you enjoy about visiting these places?
- Continue looking for (and talking about) changes in our environment linked to the seasons. Can you see signs that plants and animals are growing more now that Spring has arrived?