

**Content Summary:** Recycling, endangered species, deforestation, being eco-friendly, the weather

**Vocabulary:** recycle, endangered, extinct, material, landfill, deforestation, climate, pollution, ozone layer, preservation, energy saving, wind turbine, fossil fuel, renewable energy, solar power

### Communication and Language

We will watch short clips of the Weather Forecast and discuss the information it gives us. Using our own weather station, we will work together to create and present a weather report to share with the younger children. We will focus on the new vocabulary we have learnt during the topic.

After reading "A Wild Child's Guide to Endangered Animals", the children will be encouraged to discuss their favourite of the animals we have encountered and to give reasons for their choices using "because" to extend their sentences.

### Personal Social and Emotional Development

Thinking about how our actions have an effect on the planet, including the climate, plants and forests and the animals who share the Earth with us. Discuss the small changes we can make to help protect our environment.

Talk about including each other in games and activities and about resolving problems/conflicts we may encounter. How can we compromise in different situations? and why is it important to think about the needs of others as well as our own?

### Physical Development

Learn how to hold scissors correctly and safely with a one-handed grip. Use our skills to create collages with scrap paper.

Use a wide range of mark-making instruments to create signs with the aim of educating others about recycling.

After reading about and researching endangered animals we will try moving like them to different pieces of music. We will include high stretches and low floor-based, fast and slow movements and practise avoiding the obstacles we encounter and freezing in different poses when asked to.

### Mathematics

Learning about the days of the week and months of the year. We will focus on the characteristics of the seasons and the differences between them. Our knowledge will be cemented through singing related songs.

We will look at simple standard units of measurement when creating and using a weather station in the garden. The children will be encouraged to take and record daily measurements showing temperature, rainfall and wind direction. We will also carry out basic data analysis (how many days have we had rain? What was the highest/lowest temperature we have recorded? etc.)

We will practise number formation in real-life contexts and look for numbers in our environment.

February 2021

## We Love Our Planet



### Expressive Arts and Design

Designing and building junk robots using recycled packaging and discussing which materials we have used.

Making our own wind turbines and learning about how they can help to supply energy.

Painting pictures of the endangered animals we learn about and thinking about their habitats.

Singing songs about the weather and seasons. We will use this opportunity to discuss our favourite types of Weather and to learn the names of the seasons and the months of the year,

Learn about how recycled paper is made and have a go at making our own paper.

### Literacy

Creating signs both written and pictorial to label the recycling and general waste bins around the nursery. Talk about why we need signs and why our signs might be important. Look at signs about recycling and waste in the community while on trips to the library.

Read a selection of fiction and non-fiction text linked to our topic, encourage the children to answer recall and simple inference questions about the things we read.

Continue with the "Letters and Sounds" phonics programme with a focus on letter recognition and sounds. Where children are ready, they will be encouraged to begin forming the letters in their name.

**Key Texts:** See Inside: Recycling and Rubbish, The Adventures of a Plastic Bottle, What a Waste, Michael Recycle, George Saves the World By Lunchtime, One World, A Wild Child's Guide

### Understanding the World

Sorting objects by the material they are made from (metal, wood, paper, plastic etc.) and discussing their properties. We will learn which rubbish can be recycled and which cannot.

By sharing books such as "See Inside: Recycling and Rubbish" and "The Adventures of a Plastic Bottle" we will learn more about the process of recycling and why it is so important.

Talking about how to make safe use of the internet and, with the help of an adult, using a children's search engine to find out more about endangered species of animal.

Create a weather station - measure rainfall, wind direction and temperature and observe the weather each day. Create a weather chart to record our findings.

When making our own wind turbines we will learn about energy, why we need it and the different ways it can be generated,

**Key Dates:** Safer Internet Day (7<sup>th</sup>), Chinese New Year (12<sup>th</sup>), Valentine's Day (14<sup>th</sup>), Mother Language Day (21<sup>st</sup>), Shrove Tuesday (16<sup>th</sup>), Ash Wednesday/Mardi Gras (17<sup>th</sup>), Purim (26<sup>th</sup>)

**Trips, Experiences and Visitors:** Building a weather station and filming our own weather report.