



**BECOMING INDEPENDENT, REFLECTIVE AND ASPIRATIONAL LEARNERS FOR LIFE**

**EYFS Understanding of the World**

At Amberley, our Early Years Foundation Stage curriculum aims to give young children a foundation in the core skills needed for an ‘Understanding of the World’ which provides the stepping stones for History, Geography, Science and RE. We will look at people and communities throughout time, similarities and differences, learn how to identify details and features, make observations of the world around us whilst learning to compare and contrast.

Objectives	Focus activities
<p><b>People, Culture and Community</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Talk about members of their immediate family and community.</li> <li>• Name and describe people who are familiar to them.</li> <li>• Understand that some places are special to members of their community.</li> <li>• Recognise that people have different beliefs and celebrate special times in different ways.</li> <li>• Recognise some similarities and differences between life in this country and life in other countries.</li> </ul> <p><b>Past and Present</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Comment on images of familiar situations in the past.</li> <li>• Compare and contrast characters from stories, including figures from the past.</li> </ul> <p><b>The Natural World</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Draw information from a simple map.</li> <li>• Explore the natural world around them.</li> <li>• Describe what they see, hear and feel whilst outside.</li> <li>• Recognise some environments that are different to the one in which they live.</li> <li>• Understand the effect of changing seasons on the natural world around them.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Outdoor learning opportunities in the form of ‘free flow’ learning and also including welly walks. We draw children’s attention to the weather and environmental features, providing opportunities for close observation to note and record changes and to discuss how we care for the natural world around us.</li> <li>• Observe and interact with natural processes, such as ice melting, a sound causing a vibration, light travelling through transparent material, an object casting a shadow, a magnet attracting an object and a boat floating on water.</li> <li>• Relating texts to events and environments, including non-fiction.</li> <li>• Talk about similarities and differences between us and our environments, explain how children’s lives in other countries may be similar or different in terms of how they travel to school, what they eat, where they live, and so on.</li> <li>• Provide opportunities for children to communicate their understanding of their own environment and contrasting environments through conversation and in play.</li> <li>• Name and explain the purpose of places of worship and places of local importance to the community to children. Take children to places of worship and places of local importance to the community.</li> <li>• Invite visitors from different religious and cultural communities into the classroom to share their experiences with children.</li> <li>• Weave opportunities for children to engage with religious and cultural communities and their practices throughout the curriculum at appropriate times of the year.</li> </ul>

## Early Learning Goals -Milestones for the end of the EYFS

### **Past and Present**

- Talk about the lives of the people around them and their roles in society.
- Know some similarities and differences between things in the past and now, drawing on their experiences and what has been read in class.
- Understand the past through settings, characters and events encountered in books read in class and storytelling.

### **People, Culture and Community**

- Describe their immediate environment using knowledge from observation, discussion, stories, non-fiction texts and maps.
- Know some similarities and differences between different religious and cultural communities in this country, drawing on their experiences and what has been read in class.

### **The Natural World**

- Explore the natural world around them, making observations and drawing pictures of animals and plants.
- Know some similarities and differences between the natural world around them and contrasting environments, drawing on own experiences and what has been read in class.
- Understand some important processes and changes in the natural world around them, including the seasons and changing states
- Explain some similarities and differences between life in this country and life in other countries, drawing on knowledge from stories, nonfiction texts and (when appropriate) maps.