



## Developing Children's Vocabulary

Our main topic this half term is **Life Cycles**. The children will be investigating two different life cycles, flowers and chickens, and learning how each grows.

For the first two weeks we will be investigating seeds and bulbs, and learning what plants need to help them grow and how they take in water and nutrients from the soil. The children will have the opportunity to do observational drawings and paintings and other flower related crafts.

We will be looking at flowers through magnifying glasses and identifying and naming the different parts of flowers.

We will be planting potatoes in the preschool garden, taking care of them and watching the plants slowly grow.

During weeks 3 and 4 we will be looking at the Life Cycle of the chicken. The children will investigate the different stages of development from egg to chicken. We will also be identifying many other birds, insects and animals that grow from eggs.

In maths activities, the children will be identifying numbers, comparing lengths and sizes of different objects and using shapes to create patterns and pictures.

In literacy activities, we will continue to introduce early phonics by investigating initial letter sounds of words. We will also be identifying rhyme and thinking of their own rhyming words to complete a rhyming string.

### Key vocabulary –

Flower, plant, bulb, seed, roots, stem, stalk, leaves, petals.

Egg, hatchling, chick, chicken

### Stories –

Some stories you might like to share include -

Lola plants a garden – Anna McQuinn

Poppy and the Blooms – Fiona Woodcock

The Flower – John Light

The Tiny Seed – Eric Carle

Planting a rainbow – Lois Elhert

Jim and the Beanstalk – Raymond Briggs

Jasper's Beanstalk – Nick Butterworth

Pip and Egg – Alex Latimer

Dora's Eggs – Julie Sykes

Hattie Peck – Emma Levey