

## Ideas to support your child's learning at home:

### The Wonders of Nature

What do you notice is growing in the garden or the park?

Can you sketch what you see?

When shopping what fruit and vegetables do you buy?

Do you notice the leaves on the trees changing? How have they changed? Can you paint the changes?

Can you find or make up your own harvest recipe? Which ingredients will you use? How do they change when you cook them?

### Claws and paws:

Read different traditional tales that have wolf characters. Make a list (verbal or written) of their characteristics. What do you notice?

Do all animals have claws and paws? How could you find out?

Have a look at toy animals or pictures in books. How many different ways can you sort the animals? E.g. hooves, number of legs, fur/feathers, etc. How could you record this?

Try using a pair of tweezers as a 'beak' what can you pick up?

Some bird's beaks act more like a sieve, take a sieve in the bath with you, what toys can you scoop up? What slips through?

Use the internet and/or non-fiction texts from the library to find out a surprising fact about an animal with claws or paws to share with the class and your family.

What other stories, DVDs, books do you know that have animals with paws and claws in them?

### General:

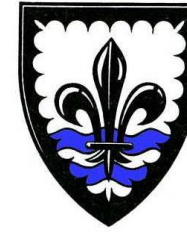
Draw something you have done at the weekend or after school and bring it in to talk to the class about.

Spend time looking at the reading book that has been sent home.

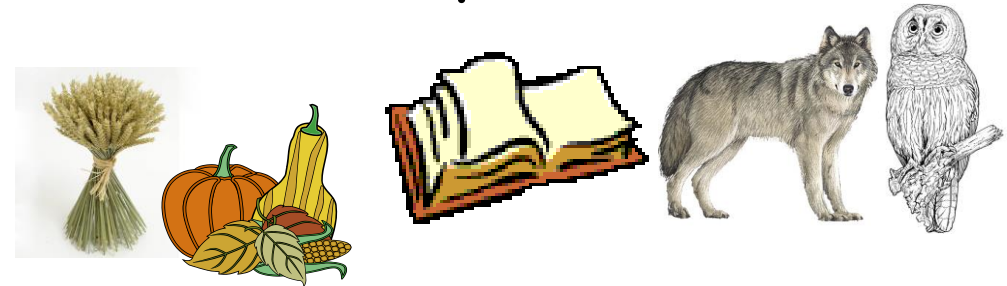
Can you draw a picture to explain the best bit of a book you have looked at?

Can you write your name in the condensation on the bathroom mirror or with your finger on the carpet?

Can you sing a song you know to your family?



## Once upon a time...



## Our learning plan for the next few weeks

Through themes of harvest and 'paws and claws'  
we will be exploring concepts and characters in  
traditional and more recent stories.

A booklet to enable the partnership between  
parents/carers and staff  
at Bluecoat Church of England  
Primary school  
to develop the learning of our children.

### **Personal, Social and Emotional development**

We are aiming to develop the levels of involvement in activities and the ability to build relationships with others. We will be talking about class and school rules and how to make sure that we take turns and create a 'fair' class. We will be adjusting to dealing with all the new routines and expectations in a reception class.

### **Physical development**

We are aiming to develop confidence in moving in different ways and an awareness of space and others. We will also be developing some pre-writing skills such as strength and fine motor skills. This will be achieved through opportunities to use large and small apparatus, digging, dancing, climbing, mark making in salt, sand, paint and threading beads. We will also be thinking about how to keep fit and healthy.

### **Communication and Language**

We are aiming to develop the ability to listen and respond to what is heard and experienced as well as to become more confident in speaking in front of the class and with new people.

This will be achieved through class 'get together' sessions where the children can talk about activities they have done. The children will also experience visitors from our community and will be given lots of opportunities and encouragement to use what they have experienced in role play, especially acting out familiar traditional tales.

### **Characteristics of learning/Building Learning Power**

We will be thinking about how the following skills help us to learn; listening to each other, working alone, working together and taking turns.

### **RE**

We are going to think about stories showing how Jesus and his disciples helped others. We will be giving thanks for our food at the harvest festival.

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**Literacy** We are aiming to develop a love of reading and sharing books and developing a familiarity with stories old and new. We will do this through guided reading sessions and times in the library. In letters and sounds we will be learning sounds for the letters of the alphabet and reinforcing this through games and activities. We will be developing the skills of blending and segmenting to support the development of reading and writing. There will be opportunities for writing and mark making in role play and other daily activities.

**Mathematics** We will be thinking about how numbers are used. We are aiming to develop the skill of saying number names in order and recognising numerals. This will be achieved through songs and rhymes. We will be talking about the role of maths in our everyday lives and how we solve problems using mathematical ideas. We will also be thinking about weight and measuring, using comparative language.

**Understanding of the World.** We are aiming to develop an understanding of the world around us. There will be opportunities to observe and talk about similarities and differences in living things. We will be making first hand observations and learning about various wild animals with paws and claws. We will be looking at how a seed becomes a loaf of bread and the importance of farming in our community. We will be thinking about technology in our lives and how we use it.

**Expressive Arts and Design** We are aiming to develop the children's imaginative role play skills, to represent the different experiences throughout the half term. We will be using a variety of media to make drawings or paintings of our experiences at school and elsewhere. We will be creating sculptures from fruit and vegetables and looking at the artist Archimboldo. We will be using music and dance to enhance and support story telling skills.

**Celebrations of learning** During this half term, you will be invited to come and talk to us about how your child has settled into school and how they approach their learning. You will also be invited to a harvest tea prepared by your child.