

\*I have met new people and made new friends - I am a valued member of Willow Class and of our whole school community. \*Our faces are amazing! They are expressive, telling other people how we feel, and they help us understand our world through our senses. \*I learned why - and how - I should care for my smile. \*I am unique - there's no one quite like me ...Or my family ...Or my home! It's one of the things that makes me special. \*I found out about the country where I live, it's bustling capital, and about the area I call home. \*I know I live in the countryside and can spot signs of the country around me. \*I enjoyed visiting Tolhurst Organics meeting farmer Tamara, and learning about the job she does... \* ...And I visited alpaca's next door at Boztdown farm! \*I can spot signs of the seasons changing in the world around me - I spy Autumn!

# Me and My World

## Willow Literacy topic 1, Autumn 1



**Main weekly focus (but not limited to)\*:**  
 Hello, it's nice to meet you!  
 Making faces!  
 Meet my family  
 Where in the world am I? The United Kingdom  
 Home sweet home: Whitchurch and the surrounding area  
 Busy Countryside  
 I spy Autumn!

**\*Aspects may change in response to the children's interests / fascinations / planning 'in the moment'.**

### Key Vocabulary

Personal, Social & Emotional

- With support, children will establish friendly relationships with their peers, their year 6 buddies and with staff members.
- Children will feel valued for their unique self. They will have opportunities to share facts about themselves, their experiences and perspectives and to listen to those of others.
- Learn to recognise different expressions, understanding their relation to feelings and emotion.
- Learn the importance of good oral hygiene.
- Topic supported by Jigsaw PSHE unit 'Being me in my World'.

**Unique:** One of a kind - unlike any other.  
**Similar:** If one thing is similar to another, they share features that are the same.  
**Different:** If two people or things are different, they are not alike in one or more ways.  
**Expression:** Describing the features on our face, when they are animated by an emotion.  
**Feelings:** Describing our emotions. Our feelings are expressive of our mental state - happy, sad and everything in between.  
**Respect:** Take someone else's feelings into consideration, and care for our resources.  
**Senses:** We have 5 senses. Touch, sight, smell, hearing and taste. Our senses make us aware of our surroundings.  
**Family:** A group of people defined as a unit - by virtue of their living together, blood ties or close connections. Families can be differently composed, but share bonds of love and affection.  
**United Kingdom (UK):** The UK is made up of 4 nations - England, Scotland, Northern Ireland and Wales. Whitchurch is located in England.  
**City / town / village:** A city is a settlement of considerable size. A city is densely populated and usually served by a range of amenities and attractions. A town shares many of the same features, but is smaller than a city. A village is smaller still and often rural in location.  
**Countryside:** Land that is away from towns and cities. In the countryside, land is often used for farming or left in its natural state. The countryside is home to a smaller population living remotely or in villages.  
**Population:** the number of people living in a particular place.  
**Seasons / Autumn:** The year is divided into 4 seasons, each with distinctive natural characteristics and weather. Autumn is characterised by a cooling of the weather. Lots of crops reach maturity during Autumn and are ready for harvesting.  
**Harvest:** The process of gathering in the crops at the end of a growing season.

Expressive Arts & Design

- Having used a mirror to closely observe their face, the children will draw their self portrait in pastel.
- Experiment with loose part art to make funny faces!
- Make use of props and materials when role playing families.
- Seasonally inspired activities will include mixing colours to make an autumn pallet, and Cezanne-inspired harvest still life pictures.
- Having looked at pictures of colourful traditional costumes worn by Peruvian people AND alpacas, we will make wound-wool alpaca figures using soft alpaca yarn.
- We will use cameras to take photos of our favourite spots in and around Whitchurch.
- Build bridges and explore gradients
- Sing songs (familiar and new) and move to music together. Our topic songs will include 'Make a Friend' and 'High 5' by Laura Doherty, and Thank you God for the Harvest & Big Red Combine Harvester from the Autumn / Winter songbook by Niki Davies .

Understanding the World

- Children will be given the opportunity to talk about their families and family traditions, their homes and locality.

**Sticky Knowledge**

- I know that, while we share many things in common, we are all unique - and that our differences are something to be celebrated. The same applies to our families and our homes. There is no family / home quite like ours - it's something that makes it very special!

- Build an understanding of their own growth and development from infancy.
- Visit 2 neighbouring farms (one arable, one livestock), finding out about the work they do and the products they generate. Children are introduced to the important role played by farmers in keeping us all fed and clothed.
- Explore the natural world during forest school sessions,
- Learn how their senses help us become aware of our surroundings.
- Compare and contrast different environments - urban and rural, the UK and Peru.
- Build an understanding of the natural cycle of the seasons, distinguishing autumn from other seasons, spotting 'signs of autumn' in the natural world around them.

- I can name my facial features (and other parts of my body too). I know that faces can express many emotions - happy, sad and everything in between. I can tell you how someone is feeling by looking at their expression.
- We have 5 senses: touch, taste, sight, hearing and smell. We use our senses when we engage with the world. They help us to be aware of our surroundings.
- Once I was a baby, and needed lots of help - but look at me now! I am growing, and not just in size, but in skills and capabilities. As I grow, my needs and my interests have changed - and they will continue to do so as I age.
- I can name my home village. I can name the country where I live, and its capital city too. I know that there's a bigger world beyond the UK, and learned about Peru, where alpacas come from!
- I know I live in the countryside, and can distinguish rural from urban environments. I can spot signs of the countryside all around me.
- I know the year is divided into 4 seasons and that we are now in the season of Autumn. The crops are ripe and ready for harvest, and animals are making preparations for the winter. Autumn is a busy time in the countryside! I can spot signs of Autumn in the natural world around me.
- I know that there are lots of farms in our area and visited two - Hardwick and Bozedown.
- Harvest marks the end of a long growing season. I know that the seeds planted back in the spring have grown and fruited. Harvest describes the act of gathering in that year's crops. Harvest time is also a moment when the hard work of the farmers is remembered, and when people express thanks for the foods they enjoy.
- I learned about two special days in the Jewish year - Rosh Hashanah, which marks the start of a new year with hope and optimism, and Sukkot, a joyful celebration in thanks for the harvest, and for shelter, family and friends.

**Selected books from our topic to include...**



Mathematics

- Identify similarities and differences across a range of criteria, developing an understanding of the term and the ability to apply it practically, developing a visual discriminations
- Compare and order by size, length and time.
- Make connections and see relationships, being able to create and continue AB patterns

**Enrichment opportunities to include....**

- \*Mystery reader visits!
- \*Visit to Tolhurst Organic Farm
- \*Visit to Bozedown to meet the Alpacas next door!
- \*Forest school at the Whitchurch Maze
- \*Celebrating Rosh Hashanah & Sukkot.

**Learning links to KS 1 & 2:**

- Y1 Geog Our local area our school
- Y2 Geo Our country
- Y3 Geog Major cities
- Y3 Science - human body
- Y4 - Science teeth

