Reception Topic plan overview The Learning Challenge

<http://www.learningchallengecurriculum.com/new/early-years/eyfs-learning-challenge-curriculum>

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| Term | Learning challenge | WOW |
| Autumn 1 | **What do I know about me?**  This challenge enables children to develop self-awareness and to settle, look at themselves and to get to know their classmates. It also enables children to look at their own and others’ special qualities and to start to consider the idea of equality.  Include sensory play activities from old sense topic:  **How do we make sense of the world?**  This challenge involves lots of sensory play and enables children to develop their vocabulary around the senses. It is a great opportunity to develop children’s skills in listening to the opinions of others and giving their own opinions and views. | The hall of crazy mirrors! Bring in  pictures of babies and families.  Compile a book for the ‘baby clinic’  role play.  Record of ideas that work related to the  context of the school, community and needs  of the children.  Children work in pairs to blindfold  each other and lead each other  around, progressing to following the  sound of each others voices.  Record of ideas that work related to the  context of the school, community and needs  of the children. |
| Autumn 2 | **Why are there so many leaves on the ground?**  The purpose of this is to develop a basic understanding of seasonal changes. It can also make children aware  of the environment around them and can easily link to environmental issues such as recycling.  Celebrations – Diwali / Christmas – trip to Audley End Railway to see Father Christmas. | Trip to the woods to play in the leaves  and explore natural art, den making,  etc.  Record of ideas that work related to the  context of the school, community and needs  of the children. |
| Spring 1 | **Who are the famous characters inside my books?**  Using the Jolly Postman as a starter for this challenge introduces children to the idea that characters in books are sometimes confusing and amusing when out of context. This is a good challenge to develop the love of literature that we want children to have.  Visit to Safffron Walden Library. | The Jolly Postman. Have volunteers  dress as characters from the book and  read out their letters.  Record of ideas that work related to the  context of the school, community and needs  of the children. |
| Spring 2 | **Twinkle, twinkle, little star, how I wonder what you are.**  This challenge gives children a sense of the universe. While this is a concept that children will find difficult, it does give them chance to consider facts like our own sun as a star, stars making constellations and the use of the word ‘star’ in relation to fame. | Watch a trip around the universe on  the smart board.  Record of ideas that work related to the  context of the school, community and needs  of the children. |
| Summer 1 | **Can we go on a minibeast safari?**  This challenge encourages children to observe, search and care for the environment and the living things within it. Children will use the school pond and forest school habitats together with story books – hungry caterpillar / what the ladybird heard – to learn about a range of minibeasts. | Watch caterpillars grown into butterflies using Insectlore.  Trip to Shepreth Wildlife Park. |
| Summer 2 | **Is everybody’s home the same?**  A good challenge for settling in time where children can consider their own homes and families and where they live in relation to each other and school. Castle sub-topic with trip to Castle Hedingham. | A walk in the local area looking at the  different homes that people live in.  Develop the ‘home corner’ in the  classroom with help and suggestions  from children.  Record of ideas that work related to the  context of the school, community and needs  of the children. |