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| **Optimum Learning Point** | **Understanding The World** |
| **Nursery** | Acquire and begin to use key vocabulary related to explorations of materials and living things in short phrases and sentences. For example, “This ice is really cold.” “This leaf is going brown.” |
| **Nursery** | Explore a range of natural materials linked to weather and seasonal changes through hands on experienc |
| **Nursery** | Sort a range of materials according to a suggested criteria. For example: hard and soft, rough and smooth. |
| **Nursery** | Find and add own selections to a given group. For example “Can you find anything else shiny to go in this group?” |
| **Nursery** | Begin to sort according to own criteria and start to develop reasoning. For example: “I can’t squash these things but I can squash the ones over here.” |
| **Nursery** | Know, through practical experience that plants need soil and water to grow |
| **Nursery** | Through practical experiences and stories, begin to know and explain lifecycles. For example: Seed to plant Frogspawn to tadpole to frog Egg to caterpillar to butterfly |
| **Nursery** | Show care for living creatures and plants when playing and exploring |
| **Nursery** | Through play experiences, begin to investigate and describe: Pushes and pulls Turns Twists Squashes and stretches Bounce Stops and starts and accelerating |
| **Reception** | Observe seasonal changes occurring in the outdoor environment and begin to explain and link what is going on. For example, linking different examples of new life to springtime (leaves, frogspawn |
| **Reception** | Use senses of seeing, hearing and feeling to describe the natural world and make links to seasonal changes. For example: “I need to take my coat off because I’m too warm as the sun is shining.” |
| **Reception** | Begin to make comparisons between different local habitats. For example, seashore, woodland and garden |
| **Reception** | Make observations, demonstrated in accurate drawings which include key features, of living things |
| **Reception** | Sort a variety of objects or living things into two groups from own criteria. For example, wings/no wings, leg/no legs |