Learning Progression: Living Things and their Habitats

	Nursery		Reception		Year One		Year Two – Living Things and their Habitats	
Objectives Covered	<ul> <li>Plant seeds and care for growing plants</li> <li>Understand the key features of the life cycle of a plant and animal</li> <li>Begin to understand the need to respect and care for the natural environment and all living things</li> </ul>		<ul> <li>Explore the natural world around them</li> <li>Describe what they see, hear and feel outside</li> <li>Recognise some environments that are different to the one which they live</li> <li>Use talk to help work out problems and organize thinking and activities, and to explain how things work and why they might happen</li> <li>ELG</li> <li>Explore the natural world around the making observations and drawing pictures</li> <li>Know some similarities and differences between the world around them and contrasting environments, drawing on their experiences and what has been read in class</li> </ul>		<ul> <li>Seasonal changes, plants and animals</li> <li>Identify and name a variety of common wild and garden plants, including deciduous and evergreen trees</li> <li>Identify, name draw and label the basic parts of the human body and say which part of the body is associated with each sense</li> <li>Identify and describe the basic structure of a variety of common flowering plants</li> <li>Find out and describe how plants need water, light and a suitable temperature to grow and stay healthy</li> <li>Identify, name, draw and label the basic parts of the human body and say which part of the body is associated with each sense</li> <li>Describe and compare the structure of a variety of common animals (fish, amphibians, reptiles, birds and mammals including pets)</li> <li>Identify and name a variety of common animals including fish, amphibians, reptiles, birds and mammals</li> <li>Identify and name a variety of common animals that are carnivores, herbivores and omnivores</li> </ul>		Explore and compare the differences between things that are living, dead, and things that most living things live in habitats to which they are suited and describe how different habitats provide for the basic needs of different kinds of animals and plants, and how they depend on each other     Identify and name a variety of plants and animals in their habitats, including microhabitats     Describe how animals obtain their food from plants and other animals, using the idea of a simple food chain, and identify and name different sources of food     Observe and describe how seeds and bulbs grow into mature plants	
Vocabulary	plant	see	fish	pet	blossom	living	healthy	
	seed	hear	amphibian	head	petals	dead	seashore	
Red – statutory	animal	feel	reptile	neck	fruit	never been alive	woodland	
Blue – non-	animal (and	animal (and animal	bird	arms	roots	habitats	ocean	
statutory	animal names)	names)	mammal	elbows	bulb	depend	rainforest	
Black - additional	flower	change	carnivore	legs	seed	microhabitats	arctic	
	(plant names	same	herbivore omnivore	knees	trunk	food chain	shelter	
	from local	different	sense	face	branches	sources of food		
	environment)	grow	body	ears	stem			
		bigger	human	hair	tail			
		taller	wild	mouth	beak			
		plant	garden	teeth	hoof			
		flower	deciduous	growth	paw			
			evergreen	flower	fin			
			plants trees	leaves	scales			
Skills	<ul> <li>Learn new vocabulary</li> <li>Understand and ask 'why' questions about living things and their environment</li> </ul>		<ul> <li>Learn new vocabulary and use it in different contexts</li> <li>Articulate their ideas and thoughts in well-formed sentences.</li> </ul>		<ul> <li>Learn new vocabulary and use in different contexts</li> <li>Ask questions about plants, animals and humans</li> </ul>		<ul> <li>Learn new vocabulary and use in different contexts</li> <li>Ask questions about living things and their habitats</li> </ul>	

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	<ul> <li>Talk about and make observations of living things and their environment, using taught vocabulary</li> <li>Talk about ways to keep healthy and safe.</li> <li>Comment on similarities, differences, patterns and change</li> <li>Know about similarities and differences between animals, themselves and others</li> <li>Use photographs to answer questions about their life history</li> <li>Use senses to explore own environment</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Ask questions to find out more and to check what has been said to them</li> <li>Make comments about what they have heard and ask questions to clarify their understanding</li> <li>Make comments and observations of living things and their environment using taught vocabulary</li> <li>Observe and find out about living things using first-hand experience and books</li> <li>Make comments about living things based on their experiences and what has been read to them</li> <li>Describe living things and observations in some detail.</li> <li>Discuss observed similarities and differences about living things</li> <li>Using drawings to show observations and understanding</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Observe closely using magnifying glasses</li> <li>Identify, group and classify plants and animals</li> <li>Use observations to suggest answers to questions</li> <li>Use observations to compare and contrast</li> <li>Observe and record how plants change overtime</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Observe closely using equipment</li> <li>Identify and classify things that are dead, living or never been alive</li> <li>Using observations, suggest ideas to answer questions about living things and their habitats</li> <li>Construct diagrams and food chains</li> <li>Research habitats</li> <li>Gather data</li> </ul>
Activities	<ul> <li>Nursery garden opportunities</li> <li>Visit from staff's pets</li> <li>World celebration week</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Looking at bears, insects and fish</li> <li>Lifecycle of chicks and ducks</li> <li>Food tasting</li> <li>Grow a hyacinth from a bulb</li> <li>Grow a beanstalk from a seed.</li> <li>Class allotment</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Dagenham park visit (regular visit over the year)</li> <li>Rainham Marshes trip</li> <li>Grow sunflower from a seed – conditions for growth experiment</li> <li>School allotment</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Tin Forest book unit of work</li> <li>Croc and Bird book unit of work</li> <li>Shoe box habitats</li> <li>Class wormery</li> <li>Eastbrook End school trip</li> <li>Visit from the bug man</li> </ul>