

Physical Development

On Wednesday afternoons, pre-school children will explore key movement skills through
Unit 1: Games from the Get Set 4 PE scheme.

We will be strengthening children's gross- and fine-motor skills through hands-on exploration of water, sand, shells, and natural materials. Children will scoop, pour, squeeze, squirt, and transfer materials in rockpool and ocean trays, helping develop the small muscles needed for early writing. They will use tongs, nets, pipettes, and brushes to rescue creatures, sort objects, and create patterns. Large-scale movement activities will encourage children to move like sea creatures — gliding like rays, crawling like crabs, wriggling like eels, and floating like jellyfish — supporting balance, coordination, and body awareness.

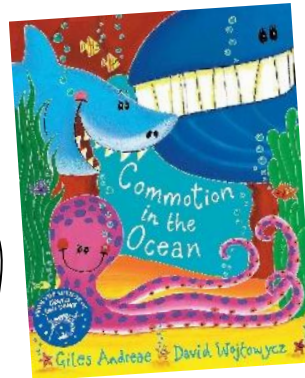
Mathematics

We will be exploring early maths through sorting, comparing, counting, and measuring using real and imaginative ocean materials. Children will sort shells by size and texture, compare long and short "seaweed" ribbons, count creatures in trays, and explore capacity with buckets, jugs, and water. They will use language such as big/small, more/less, full/empty, fast/slow, and long/short during play. Simple sequencing activities, such as food chains or rescue steps, will help children understand order and pattern.

Communication and Language

We will be building children's ocean vocabulary and confidence in talking about what they see, feel, hear, and discover. Children will explore real shells, stones, water, seaweed, and sea-themed small-world scenes throughout the term. They will learn and use new words such as tentacle, fin, shell, coral, deep, float, glide, and camouflage. Through activities like rockpool exploration, movement games, ocean rescue play, and creature investigations, children will practise describing textures, movements, and habitats. They will answer simple "how", "where", and "why" questions (e.g., "How does the jellyfish move?" "Why does the crab hide?") and talk about creatures they know from home or visits. Group discussions, story times, and imaginative play will help children grow in confidence when speaking and listening.

Summer Term 2: What creatures live beneath the waves?



Expressive Arts and Design

We will be encouraging creativity through ocean-inspired art, music, movement, and imaginative play. Children will explore colour, texture, and pattern through wave painting, bubble printing, coral collage, and ink-squirting art. They will also study the work of **Georgia O'Keeffe**, looking closely at her large-scale close-ups and using shells and natural objects as inspiration for their own artwork. Children will experiment with different tools and materials to create lines, shapes, and textures linked to the ocean. Small-world sea creatures, role-play areas, and music-and-movement sessions will support imaginative storytelling and expressive language.

Literacy

Pre-school children will follow the Little Wandle programme, revisiting the first set of letter sounds — **g, o, c, k, e, m**.

We will be building early reading and writing skills through stories, information books, labels, and real-life print linked to the ocean. Children will explore vocabulary cards, creature labels, and simple signs such as deep, rockpool, and seaweed. They will enjoy stories about sea creatures, habitats, and ocean adventures, and talk about what they notice in pictures.

Mark-making will be encouraged through drawing waves, bubbles, tentacles, and habitats, as well as creating simple maps and signs for role-play areas. Older children will begin using initial sounds to label their drawings and identify creatures.

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

We will be helping children develop empathy, cooperation, and confidence through shared ocean-themed experiences. Children will work together to sort creatures, clean up "polluted" water, build habitats, and care for small-world sea life. They will explore feelings linked to safety and protection ("How does the turtle feel in its shell?") and practise turn-taking during sensory play and movement games. Through role play such as ocean rescue, beach cafés, and aquarium visits, children will learn to negotiate roles, share ideas, and celebrate each other's contributions. These experiences support independence, responsibility, and a growing awareness of how their actions can help living things.

Understanding the World

We will be helping children learn about sea creatures, habitats, and how to care for the ocean. Children will explore rockpools, coral reefs, sandy seabeds, and deep-sea environments through small-world play, videos, and sensory trays. They will investigate floating and sinking, melting ice, and how creatures move and protect themselves. Children will learn about recycling and pollution through hands-on clean-up play and sorting activities, developing early awareness of environmental responsibility. Real objects such as shells, seaweed, and stones will support curiosity and scientific thinking.