Callington EYFS Reading Spine

Our EYFS Reading Spine has been designed to provide the children with a rich, varied diet of high-quality children's literature which is progressive through Nursery and Reception.

At Callington, we understand the importance of exposing children to a range of stories, non-fiction books and in particular, traditional tales. We notice on entry point (either in Nursery or Reception) that many children have not had exposure to nursery rhymes and tales and do not have that initial story structure knowledge. Our Reading Spine ensure that the children have regular engagement with traditional tales, linking to themes to support understanding and foundational knowledge.

Each text has been specifically chosen to either:

- Support knowledge around a specific theme / half-termly focus.
- Develop awareness of a range of story types.
- Expose children to the uses of non-fiction texts.
- Support phonological awareness and rhyme.

At Callington, we value that stories are central to supporting children with their wider curriculum, particularly children's communication and language development, knowledge, imagination and understanding of the world. Each text contributes unique characteristics to the children's learning, driving the curriculum, enriching children's vocabulary and providing meaningful discussion, exploration and first-hand experiences.

Our overarching curriculum themes provide a coherent framework for learning, helping to ensure purposeful and balanced coverage across the seven areas of learning, whilst allowing children's interests, questions and experiences to shape learning with them. These carefully selected core texts introduce, revisit and deepen important knowledge, vocabulary and concepts which all contribute to building strong foundations towards the Early Learning Goals by the end of Reception.

Alongside our curriculum themes, sustainability and diversity are woven naturally throughout the Reading Spine, enabling children to encounter a range of cultures, family dynamics, communities and traditions, whilst supporting the development of their emotional literacy.

These texts form the structure to drive the curriculum forward. They are complimented within provision by additional high-quality texts which enrich learning opportunities and support responsive planning.

The Nursery curriculum follows a 2-year cycle, with core texts generally explored over fortnightly periods to ensure all children have had sustained access due to varied attendance patterns.
The Reception curriculum, follows an annual cycle, with a core Story Club text each week which provides a rich stimulus for literacy and the wider curriculum. The texts have also been considered alongside the needs of our children within Callington's town dynamic alongside our curriculum values to create a Reading Spine which is progressive, representative and purposeful for all EYFS children.

Our Reading Spine Journey

Our core texts have been carefully sequenced to build and revisit key concepts across Nursery and Reception. The journey below highlights some of the significant ideas developed through our Reading Spine; it sits alongside the broader knowledge, skills and experiences set out within our Nursery & Reception Long Term Plans.

Nursery

Autumn All About Me	**Spring** All About Curiosity	**Summer** All About Change
Belonging	Curiosity	Awe and Wonder
Identity	Exploration	Growth and Change
Relationships	Discovery	Respect for Living Things
Emotional Literacy	Making Connections	Caring for Our World

Reception

Autumn 1 All About Me (Self)	**Autumn 2** All About Me (Community)	**Spring 1** All About Curiosity (World)	**Spring 2** About Curiosity (Local)	**Summer 1** All About Change (Nature)	**Summer 2** All About Change (Humans)
Belonging	Celebrations	Journeys and routes	Journeys and routes	Growth and life cycles	Human Body
Identity	Traditions, Culture and Beliefs	Comparing Environments	Maps and place	Plants and growing	Human impact
Relationships	Occupations & People Who Help Us	China and the wider world	Transport Past and Present	Observation and investigation	Environmental responsibility
Understanding and expressing emotions	Curiosity and wonder	Culture and community	Cornwall and the Local Area	Caring for living things	Change & Emotions

Nursery Curriculum Intent for Core Texts

Autumn – All about me!

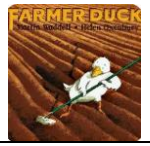
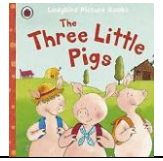
Children develop a strong sense of belonging while exploring their identity, emotions and relationships with others. Stories build the language to express thoughts and feelings, strengthen positive relationships and deepen understanding of themselves, others and their community.

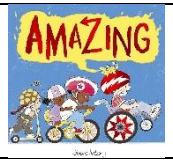
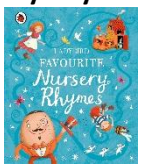
Autumn 1

Learning Focus:

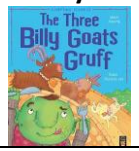
Developing belonging, emotional security and positive relationships through stories that promote communication, emotional literacy and sustained shared thinking.

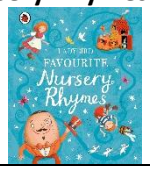
Year A

Core Text	Author / Illustrator	Curriculum Intent	Curriculum Rationale
Farmer Duck 	**Martin Waddell** *Helen Oxenbury*	Caring for others	Explores kindness, fairness and caring through a familiar farm setting. Encourages meaningful discussions about helping others, teamwork and looking after animals.
Owl Babies 	**Martin Waddell** *Patrick Benson*	Belonging and emotional security	Explores separation and reassurance, helping children develop a sense of belonging. The familiar language and expressive illustrations promote emotional vocabulary and discussion.
The Three Little Pigs 	**Traditional Tale**	Traditional tales	Introduces a classic traditional tale, developing children's understanding of familiar story structures, repeated language and sequencing while encouraging oral retelling.
Amazing	**Steve Antony**	Individuality and self-esteem	Celebrates individuality and encourages children to value their own strengths and those of

			others, promoting confidence, kindness and positive relationships.
Core Nursery Rhymes & Poems 	**Traditional**	Rhyme and Belonging	Encouraging children to take part in rhymes, songs and poems together. Developing an awareness of rhyme and rhythm.

Year B

Core Text	Author / Illustrator	Curriculum Intent	Curriculum Rationale
Hello Friend 	**Rebecca Cobb**	Friendship and belonging	Promotes kindness, cooperation and positive relationships, encouraging discussion about friendship, belonging and caring for others.
The Three Billy Goats Gruff 	**Traditional Tale**	Traditional tales	Builds familiarity with traditional tales through repeated language, predictable story structure and opportunities for oral retelling and dramatic play.
The Colour Monster 	**Anna Llenas**	Emotional literacy	Provides a shared language for recognising and discussing feelings, supporting emotional awareness, empathy and self-regulation.
Monster Clothes	**Daisy Hirst**	Independence, every day vocabulary and phase 1 sounds	Uses familiar routines and humour to encourage independence while developing vocabulary

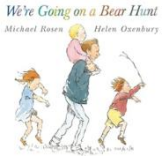
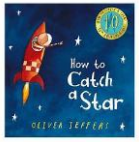
			linked to clothing, choice and everyday experiences.
Core Nursery Rhymes & Poems 	**Traditional**	Rhyme and belonging	Encouraging children to take part in rhymes, songs and poems together. Developing an awareness of rhyme and rhythm.

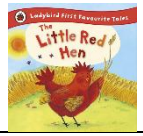
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Learning Focus:

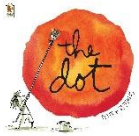
Developing empathy, curiosity and a growing awareness of the wider world through stories inspired by seasonal change, family, belonging and new experiences.

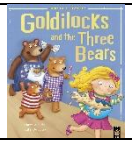
Year A

Core Text	Author / Illustrator	Curriculum Intent	Curriculum Rationale
We're Going on a Bear Hunt 	**Michael Rosen** *Helen Oxenbury*	Story language and oral storytelling	Introduces repetitive story language and sequencing, supporting oral storytelling, imaginative play and meaningful first-hand experiences.
How to Catch a Star 	**Oliver Jeffers**	Curiosity and wonder	Inspires imagination, perseverance and curiosity through a beautifully simple story that encourages children to ask questions, solve problems and dream big.

The Little Red Hen 	**Traditional Tale**	Traditional tales	Builds familiarity with traditional tales through repeated language, predictable story structure and opportunities for oral retelling and dramatic play.
We're Going on a Pumpkin Hunt 	**Goldie Hawk** *Angie Rozelaar*	Seasonal change and storytelling	Introduces autumn through a familiar repetitive narrative, encouraging participation and oral storytelling. Provides opportunities to explore seasonal change through first-hand experiences and rich vocabulary linked to the natural world.
The Leaf Thief 	**Alice Hemming**	Autumn/Winter and seasonal change	A funny introduction to why leaves disappear from trees, with lots of opportunities for prediction and vocabulary.

Year B

Core Text	Author / Illustrator	Curriculum Intent	Curriculum Rationale
Leaf Man 	**Lois Ehlert**	Autumn and the natural world	Encourages close observation of autumn through distinctive collage illustrations, inspiring creativity and meaningful exploration of seasonal change.
The Dot 	**Peter. H. Reynolds**	Resilience and perseverance	Supports developing confidence, having a go and taking risks. Demonstrates what success can look like in different.
Goldilocks and the Three Bears	**Traditional Tale**	Traditional Tales	Opportunities for repetition and joining in, adding in mathematical language (SSMP).

			Develops sequencing in a familiar patterns and storytelling.
Kindness Makes Us Strong 	**Sophie Beer**	Kindness and positive relationships	Promotes kindness, cooperation and respect through familiar everyday experiences, encouraging children to recognise how their actions affect others.
The Snow Thief 	**Alice Hemming** *Nicola Slater*	Winter and seasonal change	Introduces winter through a humorous woodland story that encourages prediction, observation and discussion while developing an understanding of seasonal change.

Spring – All About Curiosity!

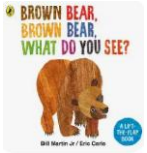
As children's confidence grows, they begin to explore the world beyond themselves through stories that inspire curiosity, imagination and discovery. They encounter new places, traditional tales, animals and communities, developing the language and knowledge to make sense of the wider world.

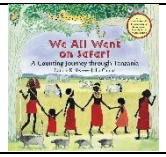
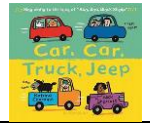
Spring 1

Learning Focus:

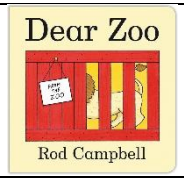
Developing curiosity, imagination and an understanding of journeys, transport and communities through stories that encourage exploration and problem-solving.

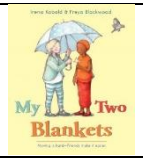
Year A

Core Text	Author / Illustrator	Curriculum Intent	Curriculum Rationale
Brown Bear, Brown Bear, What Do You See? 	**Bill Martin Jr.** *Eric Carle*	Repetition and language patterns	Uses repetitive language and predictable patterns to develop vocabulary, memory and participation. Introduces a range of familiar animals while encouraging children to join in with confidence.
The Gingerbread Man 	**Traditional Tale**	Traditional Tales	Repeated refrains allow children to join in together. It combines repetition, rhyme, movement, anticipation and problem-solving.
Poetry/Rhyme **The Big Green Crocodile** 	**Jane Newberry**	Rhyme and belonging	Encouraging children to take part in rhymes, songs and poems together. Developing an awareness of rhyme, rhythm and expression.
We All Went On Safari	**Laurie Krebs** Julia Cairn	Understanding the world	Introduction to the wider world, animals and culture. Uses strong repetition and a

			predictable structure. Labelling vocabulary for familiar and new animals.
Car, Car, Truck, Jeep 	**Katrina Charman** *Nick Sharratt*	Language patterns and vocabulary	Uses repetition, rhyme and familiar vehicles to develop vocabulary and children's enjoyment of language. Encourages participation, prediction and confidence in joining repeated phrases.

Year B

Core Text	Author / Illustrator	Curriculum Intent	Curriculum Rationale
	**Rod Campbell**	Animals and observation	Introduces a range of animals through a highly engaging lift-the-flap format. Encourages prediction, descriptive vocabulary and discussion about animal characteristics.
Hey, Water! 	**Antoinette Portis**	Understanding the world	Non-fiction picture book which focuses on water and the natural world. Encourages noticing in the everyday environment, develops descriptive language and how water changes.
Poetry/Rhyme **The Big Red Dragon** 	**Jane Newberry**	Rhyme and belonging	Encouraging children to take part in rhymes, songs and poems together. Developing an awareness of rhyme, rhythm and expression.
My Two Blankets	**Irena Kobald** *Freya Blackwood*	Belonging and cultural diversity	Explores belonging, friendship and learning a new language through a sensitive story about moving to a new country. Encourages empathy

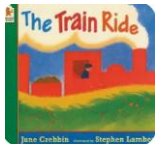
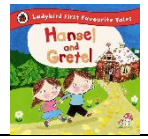
			while celebrating language, culture and inclusion.
All Through the Night 	**Polly Faber** *Harriet Hobday*	Night-time and wonder	Explores the sights and sounds of the night, encouraging curiosity, observation and discussion about the world after dark.

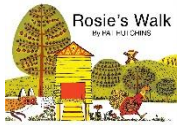
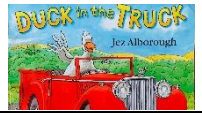
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Learning Focus:

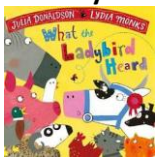
Developing curiosity, compassion and respect for living things through stories that encourage children to observe, care for and learn about the natural world.

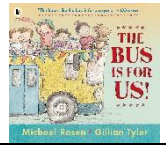
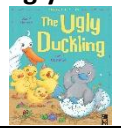
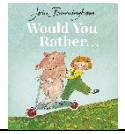
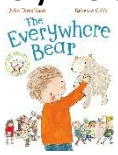
Year A

Core Text	Author / Illustrator	Curriculum Intent	Curriculum Rationale
The Train Ride 	**June Crebbin** *Stephen Lambert*	Journeys and observation. Locality and Mapping it out.	Takes children on a familiar journey, encouraging close observation of the changing landscape. Introduces vocabulary linked to transport, the countryside and communities while promoting discussion about the world around them.
Hansel and Gretel 	**Traditional Tale**	Traditional Tales	A clearly sequenced story structure which develops understanding of a narrative. Encourages retelling, prediction, sequencing and description language. Can link in locality and map work.

The Way Back Home 	**Oliver Jeffers**	Friendship and cooperation. Mapping it out.	Explores friendship, perseverance and helping others through an imaginative adventure, encouraging collaboration, resilience and problem-solving.
Rosie's Walk 	**Pat Hutchins**	Repetition and mathematical language. Mapping it out.	Encourages early mapping skills. Uses repetition and use of positional language, supporting maths and spatial awareness, whilst using a repetitive story structure which supports children's storytelling.
Duck in the Truck 	**Jez Alborough**	Problem-solving and perseverance	Encourages children to think creatively as characters work together to solve a problem. Rich opportunities for discussion promote resilience, cooperation and humour.

Year B

Core Text	Author / Illustrator	Curriculum Intent	Curriculum Rationale
What the Ladybird Heard 	**Julia Donaldson** *Lydia Monks*	Cooperation and problem-solving. Locality, Mapping it out.	Celebrates teamwork and clever thinking through a humorous farm story. Rich rhyme and memorable language encourage participation while introducing familiar farm animals. Links in locality and possibility of creating own maps.

The Bus is for Us 	**Michael Rosen**	Understanding the world. Locality, Mapping it out.	Uses predictable rhyme and pattern, repetitive language and rhythm. Provides an opportunity to build on children's existing experiences of their locality and own journeys.
The Ugly Duckling 	**Traditional Tale**	Traditional Tales	Explores belonging, emotions, identify, relationships and change. Provides age-appropriate opportunities to explore kindness, friendship, inclusion and difference.
Would You Rather? 	**John Burningham**	Imagination and communication	Inspires imaginative thinking through playful choices and open-ended questions. Encourages conversation, reasoning and the confident expression of ideas.
The Everywhere Bear 	**Julia Donaldson**	Locality and the Wider World. Mapping it out.	Focuses on journey and adventure and locality. Supports vocabulary linked to positional language. Opportunity for children to have their own everywhere bear to explore own locality in more detail.

Summer – All About Change

Children develop a sense of awe and wonder as they explore the natural world. Through stories about growing, life cycles, minibeasts and the environment, they deepen their understanding of nature and begin to recognise their role in caring for the world around them.

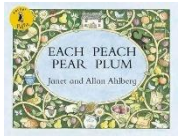
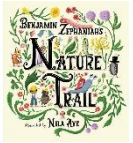
Summer 1

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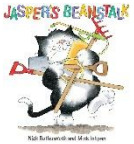
Developing awe and wonder through stories that inspire children to explore the seaside, appreciate the diversity of the natural world and recognise the importance of caring for our environment and one another.

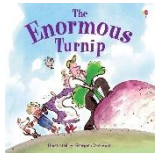
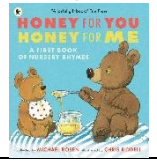
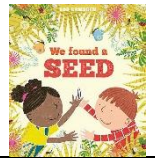
Year A

Core Text	Author / Illustrator	Curriculum Intent	Curriculum Rationale
Planting a Rainbow 	**Lois Ehlert**	Plants and seasonal change	Celebrates the beauty of flowers and growing through distinctive collage illustrations. Encourages children to observe seasonal change while developing vocabulary linked to plants and colour.
Omar, the Bees and Me 	**Helen Mortimer** *Katie Cottle*	Pollinators and biodiversity	Introduces the important role of bees through a warm story about friendship and community. Encourages children to care for pollinators and appreciate their importance within the natural world.
Jack and the Beanstalk 	**Traditional Tale**	Traditional Tales	Broadening children's repertoire of traditional tales, story language and story re-telling, whilst sparking children's curiosity about planting and growing.

Poetry / Rhyme **Each Peach, Pear, Plum** 	**Janet & Alan Ahlberg**	Rhyme, Rhythm and Repetition	Supports children's Literacy by helping children develop an understanding of characters, stories and how pictures can convey meaning. Exposes children to traditional Nursery rhymes.
Benjamin Zephaniah's Nature Trail 	**Nila Aye**	Nature discovery	Encouraging children to notice living things in their immediate environment, developing their own sense and understanding of the world around them.

Year B

Core Text	Author / Illustrator	Curriculum Intent	Curriculum Rationale
Jasper's Beanstalk 	**Nick Butterworth** *Mick Inkpen*	Growth and perseverance	Explores the process of planting and growing while encouraging patience, responsibility and resilience. Provides opportunities for first-hand planting experiences.
Errol's Garden 	**Gillian Hibbs**	Community and sustainability	Explores how people can work together to improve their local environment. Encourages children to care for nature while celebrating community, diversity and shared responsibility.

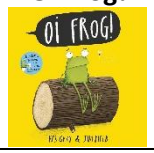
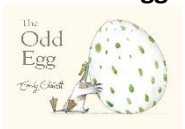
The Enormous Turnip 	**Traditional Tale**	Traditional Tales	Broadening children's repertoire of traditional tales, story language and story re-telling, whilst sparking children's curiosity about planting and growing.
Poetry/Rhyme **Honey for You, Honey for Me** 	**Michael Rosen**	Rhythm, repetition and rhyme	Provides repeated opportunities for children to listen attentively to anticipate familiar words, join in with repeated phrases and building on their awareness of rhyme and rhythm.
We Found a Seed 	**Rob Ramsden**	Sustainability. Seeds & plant growth.	Further developing children's knowledge and understanding of the natural world, how to care for nature and the environment which enables sustainability discussions.

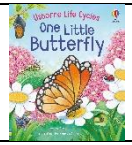
Summer 2

Learning Focus:

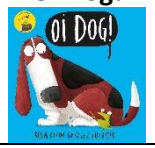
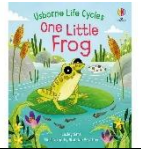
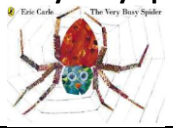
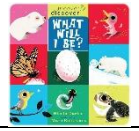
Developing curiosity and wonder through stories about growth, change and the natural world, encouraging children to observe, question and care for living things.

Year A

Core Text	Author / Illustrator	Curriculum Intent	Curriculum Rationale
The Very Hungry Caterpillar 	**Eric Carle**	Life cycles and growth	Introduces the life cycle of a butterfly through a much-loved story that encourages curiosity about change and growth. Rich opportunities for discussion are strengthened through first-hand experiences of hatching caterpillars.
Poems / rhyme **Oi Frog!** 	**Kes Gray**	Rhyme & Phonological Awareness	Supporting understanding of the relationship between rhyming words. Encourages children to begin to make connections between Phase 1 sounds.
Tadpole's Promise 	**Tony Ross, Jeanna Willis**	Life cycles and growth	Explores the themes of growing, changing and animal life cycles. Encourages children to notice similarities and differences between animals and understand the natural world around them.
The Odd Egg 	**Emily Gravett**	Life cycles and growth	Explores eggs, hatching, baby animals and how living things grow and change. Opportunities for discussing similarities and differences in animals an their life cycles.
One Little Butterfly	**Usborne**	Non-Fiction The Natural World	Opportunity for observation and curiosity. Explores early science and the natural world,

			giving children exposure to non-fiction texts which Nursery aged children can access.

Year B

Core Text	Author / Illustrator	Curriculum Intent	Curriculum Rationale
The Crunching Munching Caterpillar 	**Sheridan Cain** *Jack Tickle*	Life cycles and change	Explores the life cycle of a butterfly through an engaging narrative that encourages observation, prediction and discussion about growth and transformation.
Poems / rhyme **Oi Dog!** 	**Kes Gray**	Rhyme & Phonological Awareness	Supporting understanding of the relationship between rhyming words. Encourages children to begin to make connections between Phase 1 sounds.
One Little Frog 	**Usborne**	Non-Fiction The Natural World	Opportunity for observation and curiosity. Explores early science and the natural world, giving children exposure to non-fiction texts which Nursery aged children can access.
The Very Busy Spider 	**Eric Carle**	Minibeasts and habitats	Encourages close observation of spiders and their behaviour through repetitive language and engaging illustrations. Supports curiosity about the natural world and living things.
What Will I Be? 	**Nicola Davies**	Growing and changing	Supports understanding of animal growth and development, encouraging curiosity and predication, drawing on links in children's

			own real-world knowledge and understanding.

Reception Curriculum Intent for Core Texts

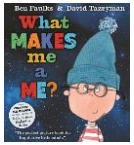
Autumn 1

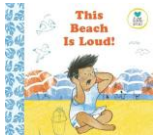
All About Me (Self)

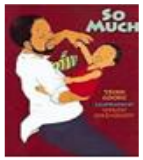
Children deepen their sense of identity and belonging as they settle into Reception and explore their place within their family, school and wider community. Through stories, children develop the language to talk about themselves and their relationships, consider the experiences of others and explore how cooperation and shared experiences help us to belong.

Learning Focus

Deepening children's sense of belonging and identity through stories that explore starting school, family, relationships, working together and seasonal change.

Core Text	Author / Illustrator	Curriculum Intent	Curriculum Rationale
Super, Duper You!  Story Club	Sophy Henn	Identify and Belonging	Develops children's understanding of themselves as unique individuals and nurtures a positive sense of identify and belonging. It helps celebrate what makes them special, while developing an appreciation that everyone has different qualities, interests, feelings and characteristics.
All Are Welcome  	**Alexandra Penfold**	Belonging & Inclusion	An inclusive text which supports children in developing a strong sense of belonging, identity and community. Depicting a diverse school community, children begin to celebrate similarities and differences between people, reinforcing the message that everyone deserves to feel safe, valued, respected and welcome.
What Makes Me a Me?  	**Ben Faulks**	Belonging & Sense Of Self	To provide discussions around sense of self, recognising that our identities are shaped by our appearance, personalities, interests, experiences, relationships and feelings. Encourages children to think about what makes them different from others,

			whilst recognising similarities and connections they share with each other.
Not Now Bernard!  Story Club	David McKee	Listening & Emotions	Explores communication and relationships. Has a familiar family setting to allow children to make connections. Repetitive language enables children to join in refrains. A simple story structure to support children in building the foundations on their storytelling journey.
The Beach Is Loud 	**Samantha Cotterill**	Belonging & Inclusion	Explores sensory experiences, communication and emotional regulation, looking at how people can experience the world differently and how environments can sometimes feel exciting, unfamiliar or overwhelming. Gives children a starting point to appreciate individual differences, empathy and care for others.
The Skin You Live In 	**Michael Tyler**	Belonging & Inclusion	Promotes the beauty of human diversity and positive messages about individuality. It helps children to understand that people have different skin tones, but that our differences are something to celebrate. It reinforces that everyone deserves kindness, respect and acceptance.
The Three Little Pigs  Story Club	Traditional Tale	Traditional	A familiar text which provides rich opportunities for developing children's early literacy skills. Repetitive language and predictable story structure enable children to join in with familiar phrases, retell events and develop an understanding of story structure.
Shh! We Have A Plan  Story Club	Chris Haughton	Respect for wildlife	Encourages children to observe rather than disturb wildlife, developing patience, empathy and respect for the natural world. The expressive illustrations provide rich opportunities for prediction and discussion.
In My Heart: A Book of Feelings	**Jo Witek**	Emotional Literacy	Identifies emotions and develops children understanding that feelings can changes and

			everyone experiences emotions differently. Provides valuable opportunities to develop early emotional literacy, make connections with own experiences and develop empathy for others.
So Much!  Story Club	Trish Cooke	Belonging and Cultural Diversity	A warm, language-rich celebration of family life that broadens children's experiences of family and provides positive representation. Its repetitive, expressive language encourages participation, prediction and storytelling while prompting children to talk about their own families and relationships.
Ruby's Worry 	**Tom Percival**	Emotional Literacy	Helps children discover how talking about feelings can make them not feel supported. Providing a relatable way for children to develop their emotional literacy, self-awareness and developing ability to manage their own feelings. It promotes empathy by helping children recognise that others may experience similar feelings, even when their worries are different.
Fletcher And The Falling Leaves  Story Club	Julia Rawlinson	Understanding the World	Gives and introduction to the changing seasons, encouraging children to develop an understanding of the natural world and the changes that take place during autumn. Through the descriptive language and illustrations it provides opportunities to discuss seasonal changes, make predictions, ask questions and share observations.

Autumn 2

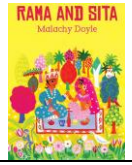
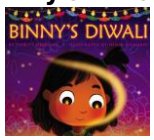
All About Me (Community)

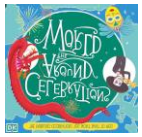
Children broaden their understanding of celebrations, traditions and the wider world through stories that introduce different experiences, beliefs and ways of life. Texts develop curiosity, imagination and storytelling while encouraging children to make connections between their own experiences and those of others, explore the wonder of the world around them and notice seasonal change as autumn moves into winter.

Learning Focus:

Broadening children's understanding of celebrations, traditions and the wider world through stories that develop curiosity, imagination, cultural awareness and increasingly confident storytelling.

Core Text	Author / Illustrator	Curriculum Intent	Curriculum Rationale
The Squirrels That Squabbled  Story Club	Rachel Bright	Relationships and Community	Explores friendships and cooperation. The narrative encourages children to think about the importance of sharing and being part of a community. The woodland setting further develops children's understanding of the natural world and how animals prepare for the changing seasons.
Pumpkin Soup  	Helen Cooper	PSED & Seasonal Change	Key themes support the importance of cooperation and managing disagreements whilst supporting meaningful links to autumn and harvest (R.E link).
Tree  	Britta Teckentrup	Seasonal Change & The Natural World	Distinctive illustrations which help deepen children's understanding of trees as living things, observing how they change through the seasons and provide a habitat for other living things. Supports children to recognise patterns and connections in the natural world.

The Mole Who Knew It Was None Of His Business  Story Club	Werner Holzwarth	Understanding the World	Chosen to capture the children's curiosity and provide an unusual storyline with a repetitive structure to engage the children. Develops awareness of characteristics and behaviours of different animals developing their knowledge of the differences between living things.
Goodbye Summer, Hello Autumn 	**Kenard Pak**	Seasonal Change & The Natural World	Equips children with the qualities of a curious observer, noticing changes in the world around them and provides opportunities to explore with first-hand experiences. Outlines how things can respond to seasonal change in different ways.
The Little Red Hen  Story Club	Traditional Tale	Cooperation and Community Understanding the World	To explore cooperation, responsibility, fairness and community whilst developing children's storytelling. Understanding and science enquiry of how ingredients are transformed during baking.
Rama And Sita 	Malachy Doyle	Cultural Diversity	Introduces children to how stories, traditions and beliefs are connected to celebrations within different communities. Providing a meaningful context for learning about Diwali and Hindu tradition to broaden children's cultural awareness.
Binny's Diwali 	**Thrity Umrigar**	Cultural Diversity	Highlights the importance of the Hindu festival of Diwali, building an awareness of different cultures, beliefs and celebrations. Encourages children to recognise that families may celebrate festivals and special occasions in different ways, while identifying shared experiences in their own lives.
Look Inside Jobs	Lara Bryan	Community & People Who Help Us	Introduces a wide variety of jobs and occupations within our community and explores different working environments, showing what people do and the

 Story Club			important roles people have in society, supporting cultural capital.
All Through The Night 	Polly Faber	Community & People Who Help Us	Provides and opportunity for children to discover people and professions that help keep our communities safe. Develops children's understanding of the wider community, peoples roles within society and providing essential knowledge to develop cultural capital.
The Giant Jam Sandwich  Story Club	Janet Burroway	Community & Collaboration	Provides rich opportunities for developing children's imagination, creativity and problem-solving skills. Gives a meaningful context in a local area and being part of a community and establishes the importance of working collaboratively to overcome challenges.
Meet The Weather  Story Club	Caryl Hart	Seasonal Change & The Natural World	Investigates different types of weather and changes that we experience in the world around us. Exposure to the environment and how this can impact our daily lives, particularly during the autumn/winter months. Children are encouraged to observe, describe and compare what they see, hear and feel, and make predictions.
Celebrations Around The World 	Katy Halford	Cultural Diversity	Outlines a variety of celebrations and traditions to help children understand our diverse world. Ignites curiosity about different cultures, religions and communities and children can begin to make links and connections between their thoughts and experiences of their own families' Christmas celebrations.
The First Christmas	**Nick Butterworth and Mick Inkpen**	Cultural Awareness	Provides a gentle retelling of the Christian story behind the celebration of Christmas. Provides opportunities to explore why Christmas is important

			to Christians (R.E link), embed the Nativity story and consider key themes of kindness, wonder, hope and new beginnings.

Spring 1

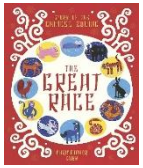
All About Curiosity (World)

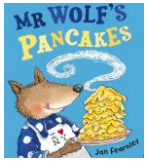
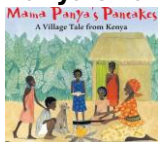
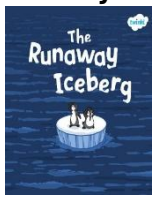
Children broaden their understanding of animals and the environments in which they live, exploring similarities and differences between animals, habitats and places near and far. A particular focus on stories connected with China develops children's knowledge of its landscape, climate and communities, enabling them to make meaningful comparisons with their own experiences and locality in Cornwall. Stories also provide opportunities to encounter different cultural traditions, celebrations and storytelling traditions.

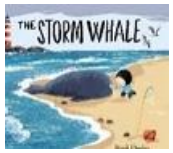
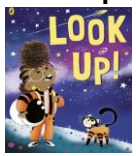
Learning Focus:

Broadening children's knowledge of animals, habitats and the wider world through stories that encourage observation, comparison and curiosity, with a particular focus on China as a contrasting country.

Core Text	Author / Illustrator	Curriculum Intent	Curriculum Rationale
A Ticket Around The World  Story Club	Melissa Owens	The Wider World, Cultures & Communities	Offers a starting point to develop their knowledge of the wider world, developing curiosity about different countries, cultures and people. Explores the diversity of our world beyond their immediate experiences. Children begin to compare similarities and differences to their own country and others, such as environment, traditions and ways of life.

Dragon Dance: A Chinese New Year Tale  Story Club	Joan Holub	The Wider World, Cultures & Traditions	Explores different cultural celebrations and traditions, helping children develop an understanding that people around the world celebrate special occasions in different ways. Supports an appreciation of cultural diversity and that celebrations can bring families and communities together. Children continue to compare similarities and differences to their own country and others. Contributes to the wider exploration of China as a contrasting country.
The Great Race 	Christopher Corr	The Wider World, Cultures & Communities	Provides an opportunity to encounter a story connected with Lunar New Year and broaden children's understanding of cultural traditions. Contributing to the focus of China as a contrasting country, it includes a journey which can be represented through routes and maps, connecting cultural learning with a focus on movement and place.
Shu Lin's Grandpa  Story Club	Matt Goodfellow	The Wider World, Cultures & Communities	Explores cultural identify and the importance of valuing our heritage, considering the special relationships we have with family members and the different ways in which families share experiences traditions and knowledge. Builds on the exploration of China as a contrasting country.
Chicken Clicking 	Jeanne Wills	E-Safety & Digital Literacy	Children can begin to develop awareness around the importance of staying safe online. They can begin to recognise that technology can be useful and enjoyable, but that it must be used safely and with adult guidance.
Journey	Aaron Becker	Curiosity and Imagination	This beautifully illustrated, wordless picture book provides rich opportunities for developing children's imagination, creativity and storytelling skills. It involves a captivating adventure where

 Story Club			the children need to interpret images to infer meaning, creating their own narratives and use their imagination to bring the story to life. Identifies key themes such as friendship, courage, perseverance and problem-solving.
Mr Wolfs Pancakes 	Jan Fearnely	The Wider World, Cultures & Communities	Provides a familiar character where children can make connections to other stories. Supports opportunities for practical learning (instructions, ingredients, measuring) whilst providing a strong link to children's own experiences of Shrove Tuesday within their own communities.
Mama Panya's Pancakes 	Mary and Rich Chamberlin	The Wider World, Cultures & Communities	Selected to explore community, sharing and everyday life in Kenya while making connections with children's own experiences of pancakes and Shrove Tuesday. Contributes to the half term's wider exploration of the world.
If Sharks Disappeared  Story Club	Lily Williams	Oceans & Climate Education	A non-fiction text which explores ocean habitats and the importance of caring for the wider, natural world and the importance in maintaining a healthy ocean ecosystem. It provides opportunities to discuss environmental responsibility, pollution, conservation and how human actions can affect wildlife, developing their awareness of climate education.
The Runaway Iceberg 	Anne Fleming	The Wider World: Climate Education	Develops children's awareness of another contrasting environment, beginning to consider how changing climates can affect the natural world. Provides an encounter with an alternative environment beyond their immediate experience. Supports comparison with seasonal changes experienced locally and provides an age-appropriate starting point for

			discussion about climate change and caring for our planet.
The Storm Whale  Story Club	Benji Davies	Habitats & Oceans	Themes include friendship, empathy and caring for living things. Encourages children to think about how others might be feeling, the importance of kindness and understanding when someone needs help. Continues to explore the natural world, including marine life and coastal habitats.
Emma Jane's Aeroplane 	Katie Haworth	The Wider World	Extending children's understanding from familiar environment towards the wider world. Introducing significant places and landmarks, providing meaningful opportunities to use maps and globes, notice similarities and differences between locations and develop curiosity about places beyond children's immediate experience.
Somebody Swallowed Stanley  Story Club	Sarah Roberts	Oceans & Climate Education	Deepens children's understanding of the impact of plastic pollution on marine life and ecosystems. Makes the consequences of pollution accessible to young children and complements Clean Up! by moving from positive community action towards understanding why protecting the ocean and its wildlife matters.
Look Up! 	Nathan Bryon	The Wider World	Inspiring curiosity about space and the night sky, adding a new dynamic to children's understanding of the world. Broadening both scientific and social understanding, observation and discussion about space and sharing experiences with others.

Spring 2

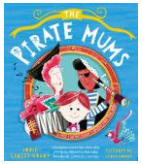
All About Curiosity (Local)

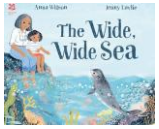
Children develop their understanding of place, position and movement as they explore journeys, maps and different forms of transport. Through stories, first-hand experiences and practical exploration, children learn to describe routes, recognise features of their local environment and begin to understand how maps represent real places. Texts broaden children's awareness of journeys beyond their immediate experience and encourage them to compare how people and places are connected.

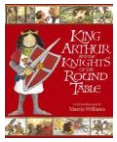
Learning Focus

Developing children's understanding of place, position and movement through stories that explore maps, routes, journeys, transport and the connections between familiar places and the wider world.

Core Text	Author / Illustrator	Curriculum Intent	Curriculum Rationale
Martha Maps It Out  Story Club	Leigh Hodgkinson	Mapping It Out & Locality	Model to children that maps represent places at different scales, from familiar personal spaces to the wider world, and can be used to communicate information. Helps them to establish their own place within an increasingly wider geographical context. Allows children to make connections between home, school, the local community and the wider world, and inspires them to create maps of places that are meaningful to them.
Rosie's Walk 	Pat Hutchins	Mapping It Out	Selected for its simple journey structure it helps children further explore routes, position and directional language within a familiar environment. Builds on children's skills in representing journeys through simple maps.

The Gingerbread Man  Story Club	Traditional Tale	Mapping It Out & Locality	A traditional tale with a strong repetitive structure which continues to support children's map making skills of the local area and can be taking into provision. Provides opportunities to explore characters' actions and consequences alongside practical first-hand experiences such as baking and investigating how ingredients change.
Maps: From Anna To Zane 	**Vivian French**	Mapping It Out & Locality	Explores the world of mapping, how these can be used to represent places, find our way and show us where things are located. Encourages children to think about their own locality and routes taken and how these can be represented through pictures, symbols and simple maps, helping children to develop their early geographical understanding.
The Night Pirates  Story Club	Peter Harris	Imagination, Narrative & Cornwall	Imaginative language with an adventurous narrative which continues to build on map skills. The story challenges traditional expectations through its confident girl pirate characters, providing rich opportunities for role play, storytelling and new adventures. Builds on our half termly theme of Cornwall as our locality and it's coastline.
The Pirate Mums 	Jodie Lancet Grant	Inclusion & Cornwall	Following on from The Night Pirates, challenging gender stereotypes and broadening children's understanding of what girls, boys and families can be and do. Revisiting the sense of belonging, individuality and acceptance. It also

			provides further curiosity and investigation into coastal vocabulary and knowledge, supporting our half termly theme of locality, Cornwall and our coastline.
Beach Explorer: 50 Things to See and Discover 	**Heather Buttivant**	Locality & Cornwall	A non-fiction nature guide which provides opportunities to develop an appreciation of Cornwall's coastline and the importance of protecting and caring for our natural environment. Continuing to develop children's curiosity about the natural world and encourages first-hand exploration of the coastal environment. Building a broader picture of their locality and what Cornwall has to offer.
The Wide, Wide Sea 	**Anna Wilson & Jenny Løvlie**	Cornwall & Sustainability	Opportunities for discussion around the impact of plastic pollution on marine wildlife. Encourages children to think about how human actions affect the natural world. Highlighting environmental responsibility, sustainability and the importance of recycling and reusing materials. Gives children the opportunity to discuss their role within a sustainable society, particularly within Cornwall.
Clean Up! 	Nathan Bryon	Sustainability	Chosen to make sustainability meaningful for the children, further developing their awareness on how plastic pollution affects coastal and marine environments. Outlines ways children can take positive action connecting them to their own

			experiences and environmental responsibility.
Dark, Dark Tale  Story Club	Ruth Brown	Locality	Involves a gradual build-up of suspense, making it an engaging text to develop early literacy through imaginative thinking. Gives children the opportunity to explore new settings and make real-world links to local places. Develops their curiosity in creating own mysterious settings and descriptive language.
King Arthur and the Knights of the Round Table & Cornish Stories 	Marcia Williams	Locality & Cornwall	Introduces children to the world of legends, folklore and local storytelling connected to Cornwall. Helps children develop an awareness of the history, culture and storytelling traditions of their local area, igniting curiosity about the places around them. Provides opportunities to explore Cornwall's cultural heritage, including stories associated with the Cornish coastline.
Hansel And Gretel  Story Club	Traditional Tale	Traditional Tale Understanding The World : Settings	Building on knowledge of story structure with a beginning, middle and end, it further supports awareness of woodland environments. Supports developing the idea of good and evil characters.
On My Papa's Shoulders  Story Club	Niki Daly	Locality	Celebrates the special relationship of love, security and belonging. Builds on children's understanding of identify, culture and community. Explores everyday places and perspectives in a non-rural setting, expanding children's knowledge of their own locality.

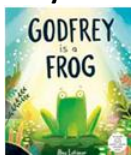
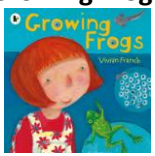
Summer 1

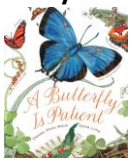
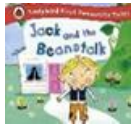
All About Change (Nature)

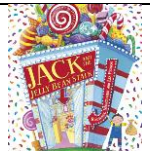
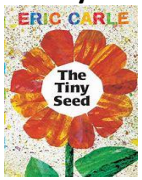
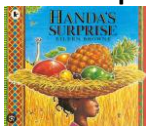
Children deepen their understanding of growth and change through stories that explore seeds, plants, food and the natural world. Through observation, investigation and first-hand experiences of planting and growing, children develop knowledge of what plants need to grow, recognise stages of growth and begin to understand the importance of caring for living things and the environment.

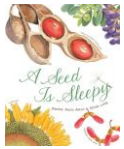
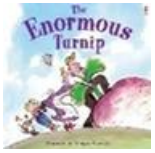
Learning Focus

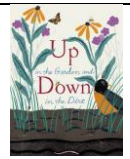
Deepening children's understanding of plants, growth and seasonal change through stories that encourage observation, investigation and care for the natural world.

Core Text	Author / Illustrator	Curriculum Intent	Curriculum Rationale
Godfrey Is A Frog  Story Club	Alex Latimer	Life Cycles & Growth	Introduces the concept of life cycles and metamorphosis in nature helping children understand how animals grow and change overtime. The setting provides opportunity to explore microhabitats alongside themes of identity, individuality, self-esteem and the importance of appreciating ourselves with others.
Growing Frogs  	Vivian French	Life Cycles & Growth	Beginning to embed the scientific concept of metamorphosis whilst encouraging children to observe closely in real-world experiences, ask questions, make predictions and investigate changes in the natural world. Further develops children understanding of how living thigs grow, explore pond habitats and identify other creatures that live in micro-ecosytems.

The Amazing Life Cycle Of Butterflies  Story Club	Kay Barnham	Life Cycles & Changes In The Natural World	A non-fiction book which looks at metamorphosis in butterflies. Encourages children to observe, investigate, compare to prior knowledge and ask questions about living things. Exploring how animals grow and change, children learn about caterpillars and butterflies and discover the importance of plants and habitats.
A Butterfly Is Patient 	Dianna Hutts Aston	Life Cycles & Growth	Further developing early scientific enquiry skills around how living things grow and change, encouraging them to ask questions, investigate, observe closely and use books to find information. Builds on their understanding of the habitats and environments that living things depend on.
Waiting for Wings 	**Lois Ehlert**	Life Cycles & Plants	Supports children's rhythmic language and further builds on children's knowledge of metamorphosis. Additionally supporting children to discover the relationships between butterflies and plants which combines the two key themes of this half term.
Jack and the Beanstalk  Story Club	Traditional Tale	Plants & Growth	Deepens children's familiarity with traditional tales whilst developing their understanding of growth and change in nature. Provides a meaningful starting point for investigating seeds and plants which leads into first-hand planting experiences.
Jack and the Jelly Beanstalk	Rachael Mortimer	Plants & Storytelling	Chosen to build directly on children's knowledge of Jack and the Beanstalk, it

			develops children's understanding of adapted stories, encourages comparison of similarities and differences. Additionally supports prediction and increasingly imaginative storytelling exploring how we can change characters, events and ideas to create a new story.
The Tiny Seed 	Eric Carle	Plants & Growth	Developing children's scientific knowledge of plant life cycles and growth. Explores how seeds travel, germinate, grow and change over time. Supports sequencing over time and provides opportunities to make connections with their own observations, enhancing the half termly focus on plants.
Oliver's Vegetables  **Story Club**	Alison Bartlett	Plants & Growth Healthy Eating	Identifies a variety of vegetables and healthy eating options whilst discovering where vegetables come from. Supports knowledge of nutrition and the importance of a balanced diet. Provides a meaningful context for how food grows and what plants need to thrive. Builds on children investigating seeds and parts of plants and looking after their own vegetables. Begins to outline a purpose for planting and growing vegetables.
Handa's Surprise 	Eileen Browne	Plants & Healthy Eating	Develops children's curiosity of plants and fruits in different countries and cultures. Provides a contrast to the fruits and vegetables they may know in this country and helps to broaden their knowledge and develop new vocabulary.

A Seed Is Sleepy 	Dianna Hutts Aston	Plants & Growth	Explaining how seeds develop, grow and eventually become plants. Introducing early scientific concepts to help children understand how plants begin as seeds and need suitable conditions to grow. Feeding into their real-world experiences and enrichment opportunities of planting and caring for living things.
Tree 	Britta Teckentrup	Seasonal Change & The Natural World	Revisiting a familiar text to compare changes over time, make new observations and expand on previous discussions. Children can make new connections with the natural world and discuss the patterns of seasonal change.
If Bees Disappeared  Story Club	Lily Williams	Environmental Awareness	A non-fiction text which discusses the important role bees play in our natural world, linking to knowledge of plants. The children can discover how bees support the growth of many fruits and vegetables and how living things can depend on each other. Provides a secure starting point to develop environmental awareness.
The Enormous Turnip  Story Club	Traditional Tale	Plants & Growth	A traditional cumulative tale whose repetition and predictable structure support confident participation and retelling. Connecting with their first-hand gardening experiences it continues to support children's knowledge of plants and their life cycles and what they need to thrive.
Up In The Garden And Down In The Dirt	Kate Messner	Plants, Growth & Sustainability	Developing an understanding of how plants grow and the important role that soil, insects and other living organisms

			play in a healthy garden. Introduces the idea that gardens are habitats where living things depend on one another. Continuing to embed seasonal change, sustainability and caring for the natural environment.

Summer 2

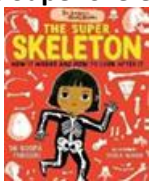
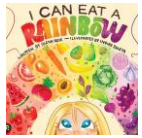
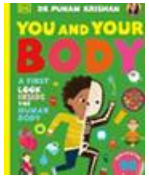
All About Change (Humans)

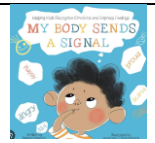
Children deepen their understanding of growth, linking their existing knowledge of life cycles to the human body and their own life cycle. Through stories, first-hand experiences and non-fiction information texts, children develop knowledge of their own body and how to maintain a healthy diet and lifestyle. Texts encourage curiosity and explore how change is a positive part of our lives.

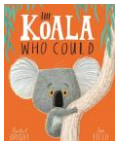
Learning Focus

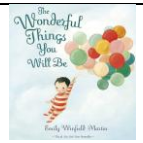
Deepening children's knowledge of growth and life cycles through stories that inspire curiosity. Leading on to further develop children's emotional literacy around change, particularly their transitional journey to Year 1.

Core Text	Author / Illustrator	Curriculum Intent	Curriculum Rationale
The Growing Story  Story Club	Ruth Krauss	Growth In Plants & Humans	Exposes children to how the process of growth happens at different rates between nature and humans. Forms the basis of discussions around children's own life history and growth.
Little Red Riding Hood	Traditional Tale	Traditional Tale	Opportunities to discuss character 's feelings, intentions and actions whilst developing empathy and

 Story Club			considering the importance of making safe choices as we grow up. Offers a starting point for conversations about staying safe, recognising unfamiliar situations and listening to trusted adults as children are exposed to changes (transition).
The Super Skeleton  Story Club	Roopa Farooki	Human Body	Non-fiction book which introduces children to the structure and purpose of the human skeleton. Exploring how the body works, children can investigate the names and positions of familiar bones, and why our bones are important as we grow.
I Can Eat a Rainbow 	**Annabel Karmel**	Healthy Eating	Outlines healthy eating, food choices and the importance of variety in our diets. Children can begin to understand that fruit and vegetables make up a significant part of a healthy diet. Discussions around familiar and unfamiliar foods.
You And Your Body  Story Club	Punam Krishan	Human Body	A non-fiction book which continues to build on knowledge and functions of the human body. Encourages children to be curious about themselves, what makes them unique and how to look after their health and wellbeing. Develops children's understanding of body parts, five senses, healthy habits and the importance of exercise, sleep, hygiene and nutritious food.
My Body Sends A Signal	**Natalia Maguire**	Emotional Literacy	Helps children discover how talking about feelings can make them not feel supported. Providing a relatable way

			for children to develop their emotional literacy, self-awareness and developing ability to manage their own feelings. It promotes empathy by helping children recognise that others may experience similar feelings, even when their worries are different.
What's In The Witches Kitchen?  **Story Club**	Nick Sharratt	Rhyme & Language	Inviting children to explore humorous rhymes, support phonological awareness and enjoyment of language. Children can develop their curiosity and prediction skills and use their imagination to create their own ideas.
In My Heart: A Book of Feelings 	**Jo Witek**	Emotional Literacy	Revisiting a familiar text which continues to develop children's early emotional literacy. Enabling children to compare similarities and differences between their feelings at the start of the year and then end of their year in Reception, considering their transition to Year 1.
Ruby's Worry 	**Tom Percival**	Emotional Literacy	Continuing to explore and help children discover how talking about feelings can support them. Providing a relatable way for children to develop their emotional literacy and self-awareness, managing their own emotions and feelings linked to future changes (transition).
The Colour Monster Goes To School	Anna Llenas	PSED & Transition	To support children to recognise and express emotions associated with transition. Develops confidence in

 Story Club			talking about their own feelings and experiences which provides meaningful context and opportunities for discussion. Helps children to make connections to their own school journey and establish a sense of belonging within their new class.
The Koala Who Could 	Rachel Bright	Emotional Literacy & Transition	Supports children's confidence, resilience and positive attitudes towards change. Explores emotions which can arise when something familiar changes and encourages children to take small steps outside their comfort zones. Valuable as a narrative to spark discussions around the transition process.
What Do You Do With An Idea? 	Kobi Yamada	Transition & Future Success	Explores creativity, imagination, confidence and believing in yourself. Inspiring children to share their thoughts and develop their own creativity. Helping children persevere and celebrate individuality, take new risks and understand that there is no single right answer when exploring possibilities. Highlighting to children what their ideas may become in the future and initiating discussions around what their future classroom and learning environment will be like.
The Wonderful Things You Will Be	Emily Winfield Martin	Transition & Future Success	Encourages children to think about their interests, talents, hopes and aspirations, while recognising that everyone is unique and has something special to offer. Children can revisit

			discussions on future possibilities without placing limitations on what they may achieve. Supports the children to understand the process of their school journey has a purpose which is safe and exciting.

Featured Authors & Illustrators Across the EYFS

Across Nursery and Reception, our Reading Spine deliberately revisits a carefully selected range of significant authors and illustrators. Through repeated encounters with their work, children develop familiarity with different storytelling styles, language patterns and illustration techniques, building literary awareness and increasingly making connections between texts, authors and illustrators.

Featured Author / Illustrator	Texts Across Our EYFS Reading Spine	Why They Feature
Nathan Bryon	Look Up!; Clean Up!	Contemporary stories combine engaging characters with meaningful exploration of the wider world. Revisiting Rocket enables children to encounter a familiar character while exploring curiosity, community, sustainability and positive action.
Eric Carle	The Very Hungry Caterpillar; The Very Busy Spider; The Tiny Seed	Introduces children to the natural world through simple, engaging narratives and distinctive collage illustrations. Revisiting his work supports children to make connections between texts while developing curiosity about growth, change and living things.
Lois Ehlert	Leaf Man; Planting a Rainbow; Waiting For Wings	Distinctive collage illustrations celebrate colour, pattern and the natural world, encouraging close observation and creativity while developing children's appreciation of illustration as a form of storytelling.
Alice Hemming	The Leaf Thief; The Snow Thief	Humorous stories use a familiar character to explore seasonal change, encouraging prediction, observation and discussion while enabling children to revisit and deepen their understanding of the natural world.
Oliver Jeffers	How to Catch a Star; The Way Back Home	Inspires curiosity, imagination and wonder through thoughtful stories that encourage children to ask questions, solve problems and think creatively. Repeated encounters help children become familiar with his distinctive visual and storytelling style.
Helen Oxenbury (Illustrator)	We're Going on a Bear Hunt; Farmer Duck	Expressive illustrations enrich storytelling and support children to interpret characters, emotions and events. Encountering her work across different stories develops familiarity with illustration as an important part of meaning-making.
Martin Waddell	Owl Babies; Farmer Duck	Warm, relationship-centred stories explore emotions, belonging, fairness and caring for others. His stories provide opportunities to revisit themes of relationships and caring within different contexts.