

EARLY YEARS FOUNDATION STAGE



CURRICULUM LINKS FOR EDUCATIONAL TALKS

Educational Talks

We currently offer three different talks to children in the Early Years Foundation Stage:

We're Going on a Wildlife Walk

Exploring Animals

World of Plants

Each of these talks will be based in our on-site classroom and will last around 30 minutes. They will include hands-on activities to ensure that children are engaged and learning about plants and animals, relating to the EYFS curriculum. Links to the curriculum are detailed in this document.

The group size for talks will be limited to 20 children, so you may be given separate times for the same talk if your group is larger than 20 children. This is to ensure that all the children taking part get the most out of the session.

Talk Details

We're Going on a Wildlife Walk

Inspired by the popular children's book 'We're Going On A Bear Hunt', this session will be an interactive story where the children take a virtual journey around the Park, looking at the different animal species with fun questions and clues along the way! The children can then demonstrate their learning by playing a 'Who Am I?' game based on the animals from the story. At the end of the session the children will be tasked with finding endangered species around the Park. Can they find out an amazing fact about their favourite animal?



Exploring Animals

In this session, the children will get to explore a range of amazing artefacts such as bones, feathers and shells belonging to animals that used to live at the Park. The children will look at and discuss any similarities and differences they can see and try to guess what species of animal it belongs to. By investigating various feathers, snake skins, eggs, shells and bones, the children will explore life cycles, the physical features of animals and the work that keepers do at Cotswold Wildlife Park to care for our animals. This is a great opportunity for children to get close to some amazing artefacts!

World of Plants

In this session the children will be looking at some of our brilliant plants, using their senses to explore the different smells and textures. The children will discuss any similarities and differences they can see, the life cycle of a plant and talk about different environments; for example, hot and cold or wet and dry and what types of plants grow there. At the end of the session, the children will be able to plant a seed or bulb or make a seed bomb to take away with them. We have all sorts of wonderful plants to explore in this session, such as the Chocolate Mint plant and the Swiss Cheese plant!



Each of our educational talks aims to cover the appropriate curriculum outcomes detailed below. We intend to achieve this through an engaging and hands-on session, in which the children are encouraged to ask questions and discuss their ideas about the animals and plants that they can see.

EYFS learning outcomes covered:

Playing and Exploring

- Respond to new experiences that you bring to their attention.

Understanding the World

Birth to three will be learning to:

- Explore and respond to different natural phenomena in their setting and on trips.

3 and 4-year-olds will be learning to:

- Talk about what they see, using a wide vocabulary. Understand the key features of the life cycle of a plant and an animal. Begin to understand the need to respect and care for the natural environment and all living things.

Reception children will be learning to:

- Explore the natural world around them. Describe what they see, hear, and feel whilst outside. Recognise some environments that are different from the one in which they live.

The Natural World Early Learning Goal (ELG):

- Explore the natural world around them, making observations and drawing pictures of animals and plants. Know some similarities and differences between the natural world around them and contrasting environments, drawing on their experiences and what has been read in class. Understand some important processes and changes in the natural world around them, including the seasons and changing states of matter. Understanding the World.

