

Our next topic is...

# Old MacDonald

This topic is all about the farm, animals and plants! We will finish the topic exploring Easter. 😊

## Milestone

Each topic includes a "Milestone Moment" that the children will experience. This topic we are again squeezing in two Milestone Moments!! Both Milestone Moments link with the school value of Compassion. The first Milestone Moment (week 2) is a visit to Farmer Gows! The second Milestone Moment is learning to care for chickens as we will be hatching chicks within the class!

These Prime Areas (below) are fundamental to all we do. They will continue to be a priority each day through structured and incidental interactions. **Please can you help us at home by helping your child learn how to put on their own shoes, socks and coats!**

### Communication and Language

1. Listening, attention and Understanding, 2. Speaking

### Personal, Social and Emotional

### Development

3. Self-regulation, 4. Managing self, 5. Building relationships

### Physical Development

6. Gross Motor skills, 7. Fine motor skills

### Literacy

8. Comprehension  
9. Word reading  
10. Writing

The topic is full of quality texts including Farmer Duck, Farmyard Tales, Percy the Park Keeper, Eggs (non-fiction), The Ugly Duckling, Spring poems (By Shirley Hughes), Mabel's Magical Garden, Little Sunflower and The Easter Story. Children will be listening and chatting about these stories. Reception children will also be writing sentences, lists,

### Mathematics

11. Number  
12. Numerical patterns

The Nursery children will be focussing on numbers 4-6 and counting principles. They will be playing games with dice and numicon to recognise quantities and match to the correct numeral. They will also spend time exploring 2D shapes. The reception children will be exploring numbers to 20 and looking at addition and subtraction.

### Understanding the World

13. Past and Present  
14. People, Culture and Communities  
15. The Natural World

This topic is jam-packed full of Understanding the World! The children will be observing the life cycle of a chick and a sunflower and finding out what their sunflower needs to be healthy. They will be observing the changes that Spring brings and finding out why Easter is a special time for Christians.

### Expressive arts and design

16. Creating with materials  
17. Being imaginative and expressive

Children will have lots of opportunities for imaginative role play in our Vets, Garden Centre and Easter café role plays. We will be drawing, collaging and painting animals and plants. We will be creating Easter cards too. As always, we will be singing lots too - including these topical songs (below)!

instructions and their own  
Spring poem!

## Key Vocabulary

Farm, Farmer, crops, grow, seed, seedling, plant, leaf, stem, petal, roots, animals, Food, Life cycle (chicken -> egg -> chick), animal offspring (cow/calf, horse/foal, sheep/lamb, pig/piglet, chicken/chick, duck/duckling, dog/puppy, cat/kitten). season, Spring, bud, blossom, growing, weather, daffodil, crocus, snowdrop, bluebell, Easter, Christian, Jesus

## Memos

- PE for this term will move back to being on a MONDAY AFTERNOON! Children can wear their PE clothes all day on a Monday (If you're not sure what counts as PE clothes, just ask!)
- Forest School continues to be on a Tuesday morning, please send children dressed ready for their adventures! We will help them change afterwards.
- **On Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> March we will be taking the children on a trip to Farmer Gows - more details coming soon!**

## Topical Songs

Old MacDonald had a Farm

Farmer's in his Den

Baa Baa Black Sheep

Mary had a Little Lamb

Five Little Ducks

Little Bo Peep has Lost her Sheep

Sleeping Bunnies

Planting Time (sung to Row, Row, Row Your Boat)

*Dig, dig, dig the earth*

*(make digging motion)*

*Then you plant your seeds*

*(pretend to drop seeds)*

*A gentle rain*

(Flutter fingers down)  
And bright sunshine  
(Circle arms above head)  
Will help your flowers grow  
(Hold one arm parallel to ground and move other arm up behind it with  
fingers extended to represent a flower growing)

### I'll Plant a Little Seed (Sung to I'm a Little Teapot)

*I'll plant a little seed in the dark, dark ground.  
Out comes the yellow sun, big and round.  
Down comes the cool rain, soft and slow.  
Up comes the little seed, grow, grow, grow!*

### Chick Songs (below!)

#### Ten Little Chicks

Five eggs and five eggs, (hold up ten fingers)  
That makes ten.  
Sitting on top is the mother hen. (cover one hand with the other)

Crack, crack, crack, (clap 3 times)  
What do I see?  
Ten little chicks,  
As cute as can be! (hold up ten fingers)



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#### I'm a Little Chick

Tune: I'm a Little Teapot

I'm a little chick, yellow and soft.  
I was born, in a hayloft.  
I play all day and I cheep, cheep, cheep.  
Then back to the barn, where I sleep, sleep, sleep.

Song by Dr. Jean Warren



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#### Little Chick Waits

Little chick waits in his egg of white,  
Curled up cozy, oh so tight.  
Then he taps out a hole with his beak, beak, beak  
And pops from his shell, with a "Cheep, cheep, cheep!"

Have your child act out the rhyme

Chant by Dr. Jean Warren



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#### 5 Little Chicks

Five little chicks went walking one day (hold up five fingers or pictures of chicks)  
Into the barn and around the hay. (change fingers to walking motion)  
Mother hen says "Cluck, cluck, cluck, CLACK!"  
And 4 little chicks come wandering back.

Four little chicks...

Three little chicks...

Two little chicks...

One little chick went walking one day  
Into the barn and around the hay  
Mother hen says, "Cluck, cluck, cluck, CLACK!"  
And 5 little chicks come wandering back.



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