



# Sacred Heart Primary School Curriculum Theme Plan

## Understanding the World Animals Including Humans Reception - Spring



**Rationale:** Children begin to understand how they are affected and how they affect the world around them. Looking closely at nature (plants, including flowers and deciduous and evergreen trees) helps them to work scientifically to spot similarities and differences that may be small but have a significant impact.

**Pre-unit task:** Class mind-map to discover which animals the children can name and any facts they know about them.

**Attention Grabber:** Children gather around a tuff tray set up with a variety of animals and habitat materials to prompt what facts the children know. Large labels with animal classification words (mammal, reptile, etc) for chn to discuss, and wonder about.

**Class story time book:** Rumble in the Jungle, Tortoise vs The Hare, Hide and Seek Animals

### Learning Objectives:

- *Draw information from a simple map.*
- *Explore the natural world around them.*
- *Recognise some environments that are different from the one in which they live.*
- *Describe what they see, hear and feel whilst outside.*
- *Listen to and talk about selected non-fiction to develop a deep familiarity with new knowledge and vocabulary*

Overview:

Lesson 1: Cold activity- pre-unit task

Lesson 2: Name that animal! Review pre unit task and see if you can guess the animal based on its features

Lesson 3: Sorting animals based on different criteria

Lesson 4: What do they eat? Exploring animal diets

Lesson 5: Where do they live? Exploring animal habitats

Lesson 6: Writing an animal fact file

Lesson 7: Creating an animal habitat - diorama

Lesson 8: Naming body parts

Lesson 9: Our senses

Lesson 10: Senses investigation

#### **SMSVC Links**

Endangered animals - what can we do to protect them? Vegetarianism – pros and cons

#### **Cross Curricular Links**

Art and D&T: making a diorama

English: Fact file – information text about an animal

#### **Resources**

Non-fiction information books, laminated animal pictures, Venn diagrams, paper and pens for labels, shoe boxes, plasticine, craft materials, fruit, spices and herbs for investigation

#### **Opportunities for enrichment:**

**Farms to Ewe:** a visiting farm will give the children the opportunity to touch and explore farm animals in our setting

**Class Museum:** invite another class into Reception for the children to show and explain their dioramas to another child

#### **Impact/Assessment**

**Most Children will:** be able to look at a map and talk about what animals you might find in different places; talk about animals they see in books, pictures and outside; recognise some environments that are different from the one they live in

**Less Able Children will:** talk about and name some animals they see in books, pictures and outside; talk about different environments they see in books and in the classroom displays

**More Able Children will:** be able to look at a map and talk about what animals you might find in different places, naming some continents or countries; talk about and describe animals they see in books, pictures and outside; recognise some environments that are different from the one they live in and name these habitats, group animals into groups based on named criteria.