

# Understanding the World

Understanding the world involves guiding children to make sense of their **physical world and their community**. The frequency and range of children's **personal experiences** increases their knowledge and sense of the world around them – from visiting parks, libraries and museums to meeting important members of society such as police officers, nurses and firefighters. In addition, **listening to a broad selection of stories, non-fiction, rhymes and poems** will foster their understanding of our **culturally, socially, technologically and ecologically** diverse world. As well as building important knowledge, this extends their familiarity with words that support understanding across domains. **Enriching and widening children's vocabulary** will support later reading comprehension.

## The Natural World

### Objectives (Development Matters)

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.  
Understand the effect of changing seasons on the natural world around them.

### Early Learning Goals (Assessment)

\*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.

### Module 1

### Module 2

### Module 3

### Module 4

### Module 5

### Module 6

### Skills

To talk about the changes they observe in their environment – Seasons link

To identify and sort healthy/unhealthy foods.  
To identify and group a range of fruits and vegetables.

Talking about the life cycle of plants and animals and what they need to survive.  
Exploring a range of habitats, looking at why the animal lives like that

### Knowledge

To know the names of different body parts.

To know that some animals are nocturnal.

To know that some foods are unhealthy. Sorting healthy and unhealthy foods.  
To know the names of common fruits and vegetables.  
To know that humans and other animals can grow.

To select appropriate materials according to their properties.  
To name and identify a range of different materials and to know how they are used in familiar environments.