



Geography in Early Years

	Area	Statement	Provision at Forestdale
Three and Four-Year-Olds	Mathematics	Understand position through words alone. For example, "The bag is under the table," – with no pointing. Describe a familiar route. Discuss routes and locations, using words like 'in front of' and 'behind'.	We encourage children to use their words when answering questions – unless unable to do so. Modelling of language when describing a route – "let's go up the stairs and through the door to the dining hall.
	Understanding the World	Use all their senses in hands-on exploration of natural materials. Begin to understand the need to respect and care for the natural environment and all living things. Know that there are different countries in the world and talk about the differences they have experienced or seen in photos.	We regularly offer messy/sensory play. Encourage children to explore the natural world outside and take care of it daily – watering plants, taking care of bugs, tidying up toys and rubbish. Offer picture books with a range of different countries and cultures.
Reception	Understanding the World	Draw information from a simple map. Recognise some similarities and differences between life in this country and life in other countries. Explore the natural world around them. Recognise some environments that are different to the one in which they live.	Variety of different maps. Exploration of maps, different countries and cultures during "Where we live" and "Around the World" learning. Books from different countries and cultures.
Early Learning Goal	Understanding the World	Describe their immediate environment using knowledge from observation, discussion, stories, non-fiction texts and maps. Explain some similarities and differences between life in this country and life in other countries, drawing on knowledge from stories, non-fiction texts and (when appropriate) maps. 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.	Build on different skills throughout the year to prepare children to observe and discuss findings when learning through play. We explore different countries and cultures, using stories to support learning. We watch appropriate documentaries to help us explore the different environments around the world: under the sea, desert, arctic. We explore the seasons through outdoor learning, we teach children to be able to name and describe each season. We explore the seasons through play and creativity.