	Reception	Year 1
Curriculum Coverage	ELG: Children know about similarities and differences in relation to places, objects, materials and living things. They talk about the features of their own immediate environment and how environments might vary from one another. They make observations of animals and plants and explain why some things occur, and talk about changes.	Seasonal changes: Observe changes across the four seasons. Observe and describe weather associated with the seasons and how day length varies Plants: Identify and name a variety of common wild and garden plants, including deciduous and evergreen tree. Identify and describe the basic structure of a variety of common flowering plants, including trees. Animals: Identify and name a variety of common animals including fish, amphibians, reptiles, birds and mammals.
Autumn	Introduction to wildlife garden	Introduction to the seasons in the wildlife garden
term 1	What is nature? Why is nature important? Activities: Mud kitchen, minibeast hunt, exploring the pond, mud painting and plant watering.	What do you already know about autumn, winter, spring and summer? What changes have you seen happen? How does the weather/ day length/ nature change?
		Activity: Children to sort pictures into the four seasons, including colour associations and the weather to find out prior knowledge.

Autumn	Y1 & 2 – planting of spring bulbs to watch grow and use for dissection in summer term science lessons.		
term 2		And the state of t	
Autumn	Autumn and hibernation in the wildlife garden	Ladywell Fields & Autumn	
term 2	What season are we in? How do you know? What is hibernation and what animals hibernate?	Learning the names of five trees to observe and photograph throughout the seasons (oak, silver birch, london plane, horse chestnut, willow).	
	Activity: Hiding hedgehogs and creating dens with leaves and sticks.	What do you notice about the season of autumn? What has changed?	
		Activity: Making a journey card to gather the colours of autumn.	
		Hibernation in the wildlife garden What is hibernation? What animals hibernate and why?	
		Activity: Making hedgehogs using clay and sticks.	
Spring	Winter and birds in the wildlife garden	Ladywell Fields & Winter	
term 1	What season are we in? What changes have you noticed happen?	Observe changes to the five trees. Learn about evergreen and deciduous trees. What have you noticed about the season of winter? What has changed? What	
	Activity: Making nests and collecting worms. Take part in RSPB birdwatch.	is the weather like? Discuss why trees are important. What are the different parts of a tree?	



Activity: Bark rubbings

Birds at Blythe Hill Fields

Can you identify these birds? Let's look at the features and learn the names of these birds (robin, blackbird, blue tit, sparrow, magpie).

Activity: Making nests and collecting worms. Looking at feathers with magnifying glasses.

Spring term 2

Spring in the wildlife garden

What season are we in? What changes have you noticed happen?

Activity: Den building, mud painting and mud kitchen. Collect frogspawn from pond to be kept in tanks in classrooms so children can observe changes over time. Planting potatoes for competition.



Den Building in the wildlife garden

Activity: Den building in small groups. What natural materials can we use to build a den? How can we be safe using these materials?



Summer	Planting in the wildlife garden	Ladywell Fields & Spring
term 1		Observe changes to the five trees. What signs of spring
	What plants can you name and identify? Read the story	can you spot? What is the weather like?
	of Jack and the Beanstalk together.	Activity: Plant hunt
	Activity: Plant French beans to take home and care for. ASE Bug Hunt Competition	Plants in the wildlife garden
		Session 1- Leaf identification activity Session 2- Planting sunflowers to take home
		Session 3- Planting wildflowers to take home
Summer term 2	Minibeasts in the wildlife garden	Ladywell Fields & Summer
	What are minibeasts? How many minibeasts can you	Observe changes to the five trees. What do you notice
	name? Can you describe their features?	about the season of summer? What is the weather like?
	Activity: Go on a minibeast hunt. Dig up soil and worms and learn about minibeast habitats. Look at baby frogs in the pond.	Activity: Making a journey card.



Take part in National Insect Week and the Butterfly Count

Bees in the wildlife garden

Activity: Making bees using pine cones and wool.
Discussing why bees are important.

