

# CUSP in EYFS

The **CUSP Early Foundations curriculum** is built on **three core pillars**:

- **Foundational Knowledge** – this is a detailed overview of what we want pupils to know and be able to do in each area of learning
- **Structured Storytime** – brilliant literature is used to expose core concepts from the Foundational Knowledge overviews
- **Opportunities and Experiences** – these are carefully planned to give pupils a chance to interact with the taught concepts within their provision

**Foundational Knowledge** is taught using **Giant Knowledge Notes**. These are a visual, locational cue that prompt pupils' thinking about what has been taught.

They are then placed into the provision so that pupils can build on their learning and use key language in their independent and guided activities.

**Structured Storytime includes:**

- Explicit teaching of rich and ambitious vocabulary
- Opportunities for children to participate in storytelling through prosodic reading strategies, drama and oracy
- Thinking Hard tasks to provoke children to think hard about what they have read

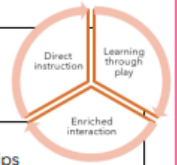
Giant story notes are put into the provision with the book to give children chance to interact with the story independently.

**Floor books**

**In these, you'll see:**

- How pupils' responses have progressed through the year
- How pupils are using vocabulary that has been explicitly taught
- How brilliant literature forms the backbone of the provision

## An example plan of Structured Story Times in EYFS



<b>Foundational Knowledge focus:</b> <span style="color: green;">UTW Science - Seasonal Changes</span> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Know the names of the seasons and what the weather is / can be like in each.</li> <li>Talk about the changes that each seasons brings in relation to their environment: the clothes they wear, the weather and the plants.</li> <li>Describe how trees and plants change in different seasons.</li> </ul>				
<b>Core text:</b> The Squirrels Who Squabbled		<b>Key vocabulary:</b> autumn, winter, spring, summer, season		<b>Additional areas of learning:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>PSED: Managing self and Building relationships</li> </ul>
<b>What will I explicitly teach?</b>				
<b>Day 1</b>	<b>Day 2</b>	<b>Day 3</b>	<b>Day 4</b>	<b>Day 5</b>
Name and describe different types of weather: sunny, windy, rainy, warm, cold, dry, wet	The weather changes during the seasons. Name the four seasons.	Name the four seasons and the months that these represent.	Characteristics of Autumn - shorter days, wetter, cooler.	Characteristics of Autumn - some trees drop leaves; some leaves change colour.
<b>Follow up group learning:</b> Autumn walk - collect, name and describe seasonal clues and use iPads to take photos. Teach zoom in/out function and reviewing photos in gallery.  Knowledge Check with Knowledge Note - matching pictures and items to seasons. Challenge pupils to identify or select the Autumn months.			<b>Guided writing opportunity:</b> Pupils A/B/C/D: Initial sounds to match items from the story e.g. squirrel, conker, tree. Pupils D/E/F/G: Simple list of items in the squirrels' bundles e.g. mushroom, conker, tree. Pupils H/I/J/K: Simple sentence to describe items in the images e.g. I can see a...	
<b>Opportunities and experiences:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Explore and describe seasonal artefacts with magnifying glasses - leaves, pine-cones, conkers, acorns. Create a simple repeating pattern.</li> <li>Sorting seasonal clothes - summer/autumn. (Include winter towards the end of the week.)</li> <li>Leaf collage - naming colours and describing textures.</li> <li>Small world and giant story notes - retell the story.</li> <li>Counting and ordering pine cones or conkers by size. (Challenge pupils to use ordinal numbers.)</li> </ul>			<b>Prompts for Thinking Hard:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Tell me, what season is it in the Squirrels who Squabbled? How do you know? How do you know it isn't summer?</li> <li>What sort of weather might we have in the Autumn?</li> <li>What clues are there that it is Autumn at the moment?</li> <li>I wonder what we should wear for our Autumn walk?</li> <li>What does that leaf feel like? How is it different to this one?</li> <li>Are the trees always like that? I wonder why they have changed...</li> </ul>	

**THIS IS AN EXAMPLE**