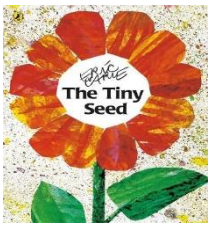

Theme: Get Set Grow **Part 1: The Tiny Seed**

Week 1-3 (13.04.26 – 01.05.2026

We will help our friends to learn to:

Communication	Physical	Personal, Social, Emotional
To use talk to explain what is happening and anticipate what might happen next. Question why things happen and give explanations. To use a wider range of vocabulary	To show increasing control in holding, using and manipulating a range of tools and objects especially when planting To choose appropriate ways of moving when climbing, balancing or travelling. To use one handed tools with greater precision	To seek out others to share experiences with and may choose to play with a familiar friend or a child who has similar interest To begin to understand expectations, rules and the importance of being fair to others. Talk with others to solve conflicts.

Literacy	Number
To make meaningful marks for a purpose in play. To begin to use their phonological awareness in early writing. To write some letters accurately.	To use numbers in practical real-life contexts by counting objects, recognising small quantities, and solving simple problems up to 5, such as “If I have 4 seeds, how many more do I need to make 5?”, with opportunities to extend learning to 10. To explore differences in size and length.

The World	Expressive Arts
To plant seeds and care for plants Begin to understand the need to respect and care for the natural environment.	To make imaginative and complex small worlds. To draw with increasing complexity and detail.

Ways to help at home:

Active: Go on a walk in your garden or local park and look for signs of growing, such as flowers, leaves, trees, and plants. Talk to your child about what they notice.

Creative: Create a drawing, painting or collage of a flower or a plant. You could use paper, paint or natural materials.

Encourage: Involve your child in simple planting and growing activities, such as filling pots with soil, watering plants and talking about what plants need to grow. Encourage them to name different fruits and vegetables at home.

Share: Please send in a photo of your child planting seeds, watering plants, exploring nature, or enjoying fruit and vegetables at home.

Key Vocabulary

grow, growing, plant, seed, roots, stem, leaf, flower, petal, soil, water, sunlight, fruit, vegetable, herb, tree, garden, dig, plant, water, tall, short, bigger, smaller, life cycle

Adaptive teaching and a Total Communication approach will include:

Visual support / real objects (real fruits and vegetables, a variety of seeds, herbs, flowers, soil, pots, watering cans, gardening tools, picture cards, life cycle images, story props)
Gestures / actions (digging, planting, watering, smelling, showing something growing taller, pointing to different parts of a plant, pretending to pick and collect fruit and vegetables)
Signing (BSL) (key signs linked to the theme, e.g., grow, plant, seed, flower, tree, water, dig, help, big, small, more)

Some key experiences that your child will take part in:

Real Fruit and Vegetable Exploration
Children will explore real fruits and vegetables and talk about what they can see inside. They will describe seeds, colours, textures and sizes, using simple descriptive language.

Seed Exploration
Children will compare different types of seeds and talk about what is the same and what is different. They will begin to predict what the seeds might grow into.

Planting Seeds and Caring for Growing Plants
Children will plant cress, peppers, tomatoes and beans using a range of tools and watering cans. They will learn how to care for plants and begin to talk about what plants need to grow.

Vegetable Tasting linked to Oliver's Vegetables
Children will taste a range of vegetables and talk about the flavours, textures and smells. They will be encouraged to share their likes and dislikes and use simple words to describe what they notice.

Retelling Jack and the Beanstalk
Children will use props, puppets and role play to act out the story of Jack and the Beanstalk. They will begin to remember key events, use story language and take on different character roles in their play.

Observational Drawings and Life Cycle Labels
Children will carefully observe plants and create observational drawings. With adult support, they will begin to label the different parts of a plant.

Balance Bikes
Children will use balance bikes to develop control, coordination and confidence. They will practise avoiding obstacles, slowing down and stopping safely.

Writing Signs and Labels
Children will begin to write simple signs and labels such as "beans", "cress", "flower", "mud kitchen". Children will use their developing phonic knowledge to make meaningful marks in their play.

Creating a Class Book: How We Grow
Children will work together to create a class book called How We Grow, using their drawings, labels and dictated sentences. This will help them to reflect on their learning and share their ideas with others.

Counting Seeds into Plant Pots
Children will fill plant pots with seeds to match numbers to 5, with deeper learning opportunities to 10. Some pots will already contain a small number of seeds, and children will work out how many more are needed. Adults will encourage counting, subitising, and the use of language such as "one more" and "altogether".

Building a Giant Beanstalk
Children will work together to build a giant beanstalk using a range of materials. They will share ideas, solve problems and develop their imaginative play as they bring the story to life.

Sensory Herb Garden
Children will explore a sensory herb garden using herbs such as mint, basil and lavender. They will talk about the smells, textures and colours, and begin to notice similarities and differences between the plants.

Key dates for this term:

Supporting Learning at Home: Wednesday 22nd April, 9.00am–10.00am
Triple P (Positive Parenting Program):
Session 1: Building Connection and Positive Relationships – Tuesday 28th April, 9.15am–10.15am
Session 2: Encouraging Good Behaviour – Tuesday 5th May, 9.15am–10.15am
Session 3: Managing Challenging Behaviour Calmly – Tuesday 12th May, 9.15am–10.15am
Early Words Together 6-week programme: Wednesday 29th April; 6th,13th, 20th May 3rd,10th June
Let's Talk SEND (Autism Information) coffee morning - Monday 18th May 9am-10am
Trip to the Idea Store: Wednesday 13th May, 9.15am–11.45am
Trip to Docklands Museum: Wednesday 13th May, 9.30am–2.30pm
Trip to Mudchute Farm: Thursday 7th May, 9.00am–12.00pm and Friday 22nd May, 9.00am–12.00pm

Trips will take place in small groups. A member of staff will speak with you if your child is selected to take part on this occasion. All children will have opportunities to attend trips during their time at the nursery.