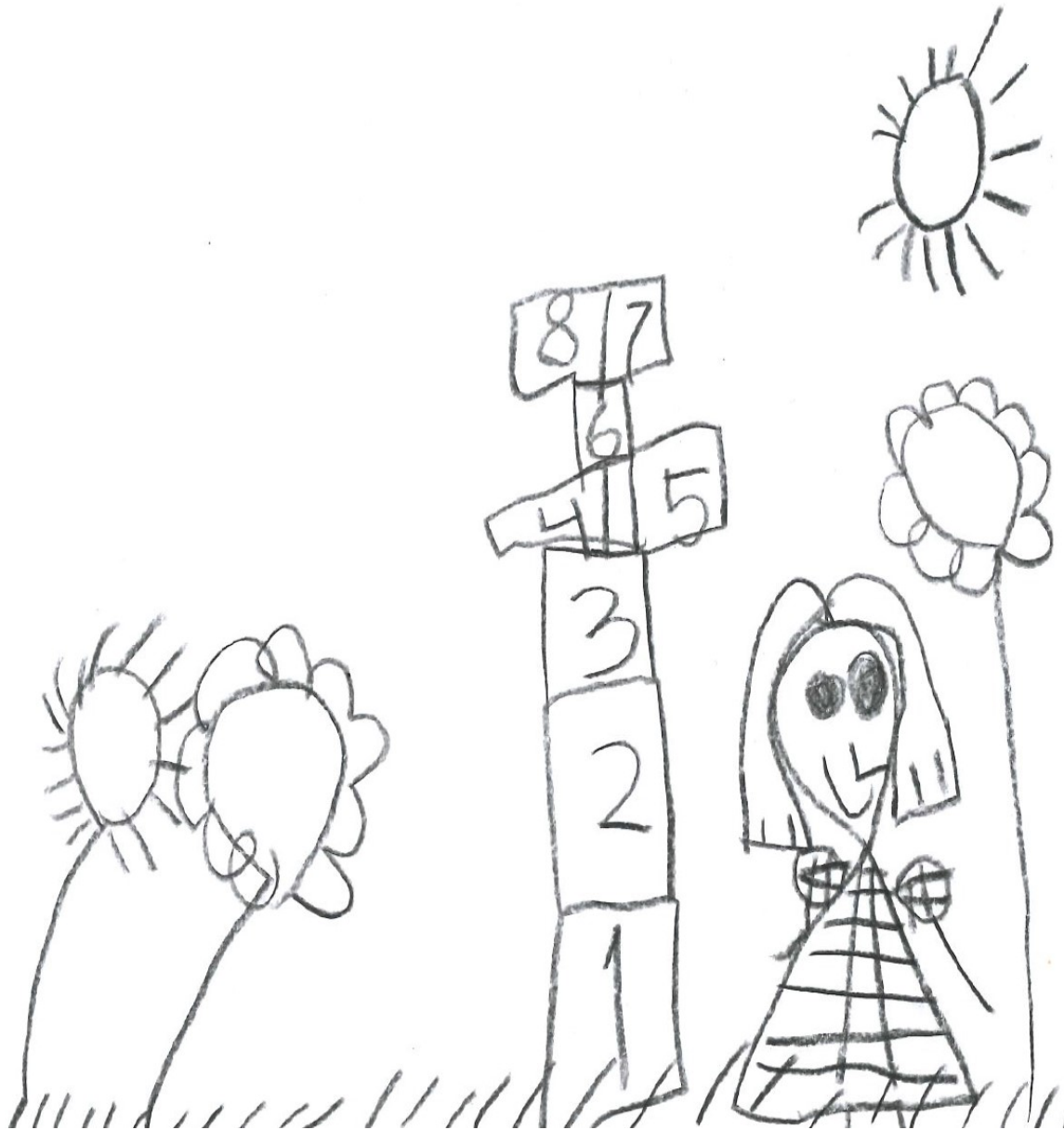




Seaford Park Primary  
School



2017 Prep Information  
Booklet

# Seaford Park Primary School

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Find us on Facebook!

[www.facebook.com/seafordparkprimaryschool](http://www.facebook.com/seafordparkprimaryschool)

**Principal: Ms Julie Braakhuis**

## Term Dates 2017

**Term 1: 30th January– 31st March**

Years 1-6 start 1st Feb

Preps Start 2nd Feb

**Term 2: 18th April– 30th June**

**Term 3: 17th July– 22nd September**

**Term 4: 9th October– 22nd December**

# Table of Contents

Beginning of Year.....	1
Meet the Teacher Interviews.....	1
First Day of School.....	1
Finishing Times.....	1
English Online Interview.....	1
General Information	
Appointments.....	2
Assembly.....	2
Banking.....	2
Books and Supplies.....	2
Breakfast Club.....	2
Buddies.....	3
Canteen.....	3
Class Bear.....	3
Classroom Helpers.....	3
Excursions and Incursions.....	4
Fresh Fruit Friday.....	4
Fruit Break.....	4
Food.....	4
Grade Routines.....	4
Head Lice.....	5
Money at School.....	5
Newsletter.....	5
Notices.....	5
Nude Food.....	6
Photographs.....	6
PMP.....	6
Prep News.....	6
Session Times.....	7
Show and Tell and Book Bags.....	7
Social Service and 5 Cent Friday.....	7
Specialist Timetable.....	7
Subway Orders.....	7
SunSmart.....	8
Take Home Books.....	8
Uniform.....	8
Water.....	9
10 Quick Tips for a Successful Transition.....	9
What You Can Do To Prepare Your Child For Their First Year Of School.....	10

## BEGINNING OF YEAR

### **Meet the Teacher Interviews**

These will be held on **Wednesday 1st February**. They will be for fifteen minutes each where you and your child will come into the classroom and share information with the class teacher. This will give your child a chance to be familiar with the room and you a chance to talk with your child's teacher in a relaxed environment. This should make their first day of school less stressful for them and for you! We ask that you bring your child's school supplies with you (**it is important that supplies remain unnamed as we use coloured labels to assist with book identification**). You will be notified of your time by mail early next year.

### **First Day of School**

The first day of school for the Preps will be **Thursday, 2nd February**. On this day we have staggered starting times so that we can ensure your child has a positive and happy start to their schooling. You will be notified of your time by mail early next year.

### **Finishing Times**

**Week 1:** Thursday 2nd February and Friday 3rd February — 9:00am– 1:00pm

**Week 2:** Monday 6th February to Friday 10th February – 9.00am to 1.00pm.

**Week 3:** Monday 13th February to Friday 17th February – 9.00am to 2.25pm.

**Week 4:** Monday 20th February to Friday 24th February – 9.00am to 2.25pm.

**Week 5:** Monday 27th February to Friday 3rd March – 9.00am to 2.25pm.

**Week 6:** Monday 6th March onwards – **full time** – 9.00am to 3.15pm.

It is important that you collect your child promptly during weeks 1 to 4 as the English Interviews will be conducted on these days. On each of these afternoons the children will be brought to the Shadowlands door to be dismissed. Children will be able to leave when we see their parent or carer. When children are attending full time they will also exit from the Shadowlands door.

### **English Online Interview**

At the beginning of the year we conduct this interview to establish your child's literacy knowledge. They are conducted individually and take around 45 minutes to complete. Each child will be allocated a time in February to attend. You will be notified of your child's time by mail. Please make sure that you are aware of the time. If it proves to be inconvenient we will need to be informed as soon as possible.

## APPOINTMENTS

Appointments can be made with teachers to discuss any questions or concerns you might have. If teachers have concerns they will contact you, as a shared approach to a problem is usually the most effective.

## ASSEMBLY

Every Monday morning we have a whole school assembly and parents are welcome to stay for this. It begins at 9.05am and is held in the small gallery. Weekly awards are presented and notices and upcoming events are announced and achievements acknowledged. This is a great opportunity to keep abreast of all the activities and goings-on at Seaford Park.

## BANKING

Children are encouraged to participate in our school banking program which is run through the Commonwealth Bank. Bank books are collected each Tuesday morning and children can collect tokens and redeem prizes if they bank regularly.

## BOOKS AND SUPPLIES

Collection of all book list supplies will be on **Monday 30th January 2017 between 12 and 2pm** at the school. Please bring all books and stationery supplies with you to your Meet the Teacher interview time in Rooms 1 or 2 on Wednesday 1st February. (Please **do not** name these items as we have made special colour coded covers for each of their books.) This allows us to start labelling books and organising stationery, making it one less thing we have to worry about on your child's first formal day of school, as everything will already be in their lockers!

As well as the book list supplies each child needs to have:

- A **Library Bag** (you can purchase these from PSW or bring in your own).
- A blue **Book Bag** (supplied by the school at no cost to you).
- An **Art Smock** (supplied by the school at no cost to you).

**Please name these items clearly.**

## BREAKFAST CLUB

Breakfast Club runs every Tuesday morning from 8:15– 8:45am. To attend children must arrive before 8:30am so they have enough time to sit nicely and finish their breakfast. A nutritious breakfast each morning is very important and helps the children to get ready for a busy day at school. A variety of food is on offer, including toast, cereal, fruit and yoghurt– pancakes are occasionally on offer as a special treat!

## BUDDIES

Seaford Park Primary School run a wonderful buddy program, utilising the Better Buddies program, sponsored by the Alannah and Madeline Foundation. All students are introduced to their Year Six buddy in their final transition session on **Tuesday 6th December 2016**. The buddies come into the classroom for activities during the first weeks of Term 1 and are also present when the Preps join the whole school in the yard for the first time. Buddy sessions are scheduled fortnightly and this is a great opportunity for Preps and Year Six children to get together and complete a range of fun activities. Having a Year Six buddy supports a smoother transition into primary school and also supports social interactions for the Preps and Year Six children alike!

## CANTEEN

In Term 1, 2 and 4 Icy-poles and other cold treats are sold on Wednesdays at lunchtime and Fridays after school at the canteen. Children can buy an icy-pole or frozen yoghurt for \$1.50. Zooper Doopers, jelly cups and fruit juice sticks are \$1.00. Frozen pineapple, watermelon, strawberries and grapes are also for sale for 50 cents. Please send this money in a named envelope or zip-lock bag on the relevant days.

In Term 3 Hot Chocolate is on sale for \$1.50 each Friday after school.

Popcorn is for sale on Fridays at playtime for 50 cents a bag. Please send this money in a named envelope or zip-lock bag on Friday mornings.

Special hot lunches occur once a term. The menu changes each time and notices will be sent home to notify you of these days. Please ensure orders and money is returned by the time indicated on the slip as late orders can not be accepted.

## CLASS BEAR

Each week a child from each grade is chosen to look after our class bears Cuddles and Mr Ted. When they come to your house please write a brief entry into their diary to share with the class. Encourage your child to write about their visit and include some drawings or photos as part of your 2 page spread. Please encourage your child to take good care of them so that they stay 'fit and healthy' for the whole year. We ask that our special teddies come back to the classroom after visiting your house for one week. A list is kept in the classrooms to ensure that everyone gets a turn.

## CLASSROOM HELPERS

We invite all parents, grandparents and friends to assist in the classroom throughout the year, particularly for hearing the children read. You are welcome to offer your services on one or more occasions per week. We need at least one helper for reading each day.

To be a classroom helper you will need to have a current Working With Children card and attend a short training session with our Principal, Julie Braakhuis, who will explain everything you will need to know about helping! We will notify you when these sessions will be held. On occasions we will also ask parents to help with excursions and other activities.

## EXCURSIONS AND INCURSIONS

During the year there will be special events for the children to attend. These are generally related to the integrated topics we are learning about in the classroom. Notices will be sent out in advance to notify you of the activity. Some of our excursions require parent helpers and can not be run without assistance.

## FRESH FRUIT FRIDAY

Each Friday the school will supply a fresh fruit/vegetable platter for the class to share, so children do not need to bring their own fruit on this day.

## FRUIT BREAK

Each day at 10.00am we have our fruit or vegetable break. We encourage all children to have a piece of fresh fruit or vegetable to eat at this time. If you wish to send a whole apple please have this pre cut for convenience. Oranges are not advisable as little hands become very sticky.

## FOOD

Play lunch is eaten at 11am each day. It should be nutritional and of a reasonable quantity, as lunch is at 1.30pm and children will need the correct food to keep them going! Children eat their lunches in the classroom from 1:30– 1:40pm each day. All children are expected to eat the main part of their lunch first and any other treats may be eaten after their lunch is finished. Sandwiches are always a popular choice, however, many children also bring in other nutritious lunches such as pasta or rice in a Thermos– a great option for cold winter days! We ask that no nuts are brought in lunches as we are a nut free school. This includes nut spreads such as peanut butter and Nutella.

## GRADE ROUTINES

### **Children are expected to:**

- Be lined up with their grade in Shadowlands (undercover area) by 9.00am. Music is played at 8.57am just before the bell. After 9.00am your child must enter through the office door and collect a late pass.
- Come into the classroom independently.
- Leave independently (your child will exit from Shadowlands door).
- Unpack their bag and give any notes to teachers.

### **Parents please:**

- Send a note if your child is out of uniform or leaving early etc.

- Notify us of all absences using either pink slips or a note, and send to your child's teacher. You can also use the email notification forms available on the website. This can be found under the administration tab on the home page.
- If visiting the school building between 9.00am and 3.15pm please sign in and get a visitor's badge from the office. This procedure is for safety reasons.
- Drop your children in a safe area. The staff carpark is for staff only. Parents are not permitted to use the staff car park or the delivery/disabled parking area. For safety reasons, please do not let your child walk through the car park.

## HEAD LICE

Long hair should always be tied back. Children are encouraged not to take their hair out. We also encourage regular checking for head lice by parents to help keep this problem at bay. We have a head lice nurse, Mrs Barber, who conducts head lice checks every fortnight. If your child unfortunately has head lice you will be contacted and asked to return a slip indicating that the hair has been treated. Children with live lice will be separated from other students until they are collected from school.

## MONEY AT SCHOOL

There are times when your child will need to bring money to school. This may be money to spend at the canteen, Mother's or Father's Day Stalls, hot food days etc. All money must be sent to school in a **named** envelope or zip lock bag. Please tell your child what they money is for, or write this on their envelope. All money for excursions must come to the classroom teacher first, please do not take it directly to the office.

## NEWSLETTER

Newsletters are posted on the website and you can subscribe to receive it by email. Please read through the newsletter with your child. You will find important upcoming events and general school news in there.

## NOTICES

A red notice folder is included in the booklist that you have purchased. This folder will be named by the teachers and will be used for children to bring home any notices or work they have been given. It will be your child's responsibility to bring these home to show you and to **bring the red folder back the following day** and return it to the tub in the classroom where they will be kept. Please check your child's bag every night for correspondence. If a notice requires you to send money to school, please place the money in a **named envelope** and the event that the money is for. Notices are also accessible on the website if another copy is required.



## NUDE FOOD

Every Tuesday we have a Nude Food Day. Children are asked to bring food to school in containers instead of wrappers. There are lots of fantastic lunchboxes that can be used for this that have separate sections to store different foods in. The grade that has the least number of people with wrappers gets a special prize! We are looking to reduce the amount of waste the school produces. Having Nude Food as often as possible is a great way to help our environment!

## PHOTOGRAPHS

**NO** photographs or media devices can be used at school functions due to media restrictions for some students throughout the school. Please be respectful of this at all times to avoid any awkward circumstances. Photos of children will be taken by teachers and staff at the school. We place photos on the school's Facebook page and website for parents to access.

## PMP

Children will be doing P.M.P. (Perceptual Motor Program) in Terms 2 and 3. We will need helpers for these 1/2 hour sessions that are held once a week. For safety reasons, children are required to take their shoes and socks off during PMP. Please encourage your child to be independent at home by practising putting on their own shoes and socks. All helpers must have a current Working with Children Check. More information will be sent home in Term 1.

## PREP NEWS

Prep News will come home each Friday. This is a special newsletter that includes information just for the Prep classes. Each week there will be a list of our sight words to practise at home. There will also be a selection of mathematics activities that complement what we have been learning in the classroom. We will include any special news or events that you need to be aware of. Prep News will come home in a blue folder that you have purchased as part of your booklist. These folders will be named for your child by the teachers. It is very important that your child's blue folder comes to school **each Friday**. We will send home any resources required to complete the maths activities—including games boards and laminated cards. **Please take care of any resources** sent home as at the end of the year we will be asking for all laminated cards to be returned to school, ready for the following year's preps! These activities are an important part of your child's learning. Please work together with your child to reinforce what they are learning at school.

## SESSION TIMES

Next year the school day will be divided up as follows:

9am – 11am - Class time (fruit break will be at 10am)

11.00am – 11.30am - Recess

11.30am – 1.30pm - Class time

1.30pm – 1.40pm - Eat lunch in classrooms

1.40pm – 2.15pm - Lunchtime

2.15pm – 3.15pm - Class time

3.15pm - Dismissal

## SHOW AND TELL AND BOOK BAGS

These bags go home with two different children each day. If your child brings the book bag home please choose one book together for your child to share with the class the following day. The Show and Tell bag also requires **one item** that will fit inside the bag. It may be a toy or anything else of interest to your child. To avoid disappointment, please remember to return these bags with your child, as it is a highlight of the day for all children.

## SOCIAL SERVICE AND 5 CENT FRIDAY

Our school sponsors a World Vision child. Children are encouraged to bring some social service to contribute in their class. This is collected on a weekly basis and the class that raises the most each week is announced at assembly and awarded the trophy to display in their classroom. 5 cent Friday is another way of raising money for various charities. Each class aims to collect the most 5 cent pieces to receive the trophy for the week.

## SPECIALIST TIMETABLE

A timetable will be sent home at the beginning of the year so you know which days your child will have Library, ICT, Visual Arts, Physical Education and Performing Arts. Please ensure your child has an art smock for art, a library bag for library and appropriate shoes for sport.

## SUBWAY ORDERS

Lunch orders are available from Subway on Fridays only. Please remind your child to put their lunch order into the basket on **Thursday morning** in a named envelope. Order forms are available from the office and the school website. If your child has a lunch order they will still need a snack for recess.

## SUNSMART

Children are required to wear a school approved broad brim hat in at least Terms 1 and 4 as part of the uniform policy. This may be extended depending on weather patterns. Children are encouraged to wear sunscreen but it must be applied at home.

## TAKE HOME BOOKS

At the beginning of the year we will send home 'no text books'. These books are designed to be used to develop oral language. You can sit with your child and make up a story or describe the pictures. Use sophisticated language when looking at these books. Encourage detailed descriptions– e.g. 'I can see a big blue car with black tyres and 3 passengers.' instead of 'I see a car.' In the classroom we focus on describing objects based on, colour, size, shape, texture, number and action. It is great if you can use these prompts at home too. Towards the end of Term 1 we will send home books with text. By this stage your child should be familiar with some basic sight words and may recognise some of these when reading. Encourage them to point to each word as they read and look at the pictures to help if they are unsure. You will see that early books are very repetitive. This builds your child's confidence and prepares them for more challenging books once they have learned to read more sight words. Take Home Books are designed to be easy, to build confidence and practise words and skills they know. We work on more challenging books in the classroom. Please read **every night** with your child. Encourage and praise effort and progress. If your child's book has not been changed you may read the same book again, or share another book from home together. Throughout the year you will see reading goals in your child's reading log book. This goal has been selected specifically for your child based on an area they can improve. Remind your child about their goal before you begin reading to help them progress. The teachers will regularly assess your child's progress. Reading assessment is not only based upon reading the words correctly. We also monitor fluency, expression and ask questions to see if they understand what they have read. Creating a positive routine with your child and reading each night is a wonderful way to support your child's learning.

## UNIFORM

Uniform items **must** be named, especially jumpers and hats. Any lost items will be returned to children if they are named, if they are not named they will be placed into lost property. Second hand uniform is available in limited amounts. Please enquire at the office if you wish to purchase second hand uniform. It is expected that children will wear school uniform every day. If your child is out of uniform please send an explanatory note to the classroom teacher. Any tights or leggings worn must be navy blue and hair accessories must be in school colours. We ask that school shoes are white or black with matching laces. Any jewellery worn is restricted to earrings (stud or sleepers only). Necklaces can be a safety risk when playing outside.

## WATER

Water is the only liquid permitted in water bottles. Water bottles will be kept in a tub that is easy for all children to access throughout the day. When outside, there are drinking taps that may be used. Children are free to drink water at any time during the day to maintain hydration which assists with concentration. We ask that all water bottles have a 'pop-top' and **not** a screw top as this avoids any unnecessary spills in the classroom.

## 10 QUICK TIPS FOR A SUCCESSFUL TRANSITION

1. Encourage your child to ask questions about going to school.
2. Help your child stay healthy – establish an early bedtime routine and eating a healthy breakfast well before school starts.
3. Encourage your child to try to do things on their own, eg. dressing, washing their hands, unwrapping their food and opening their drink bottle.
4. Familiarise your child with staff names.
5. Show your child where the school is and talk about how you will travel to and from school.
6. Arrange playtimes with other families whose children will be going to the same school as your child.
7. Practise the things your child will need to do to get ready for school, eg. dressing themselves, putting things in their school bag, eating breakfast.
8. Practise putting on and taking off school uniform including art smock, school shoes and windcheater.
9. Arrive at school on time at 8:50am. A late arrival will cause your child anxiety. Avoid unnecessary absences. It is important that your child attends school every day.
10. Be positive about starting school and enjoy your child's excitement.

We hope that these explanations are clear and look forward to your support in these matters. If you have any questions about these issues or anything else, please come and see us.

# What you can do at home to prepare your child for their first year of school



## PERSONAL, SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT

- Encourage your child to say please and thank you.
- Encourage your child to take his/ her jacket or jumper on and off.
- When playing with your child, support them in sharing toys and taking turns.
- Ensure that your child is able to go to the toilet unaided.
- Encourage your child to talk about their feelings.

## READING AND WRITING

- Allow your child to select books for themselves- ones that interest him/ her. Picture books with repetitive and basic language are ideal.
- Encourage your child to 'read' what is happening in the pictures. Prompt them to tell you a sentence about what is happening.
- To increase vocabulary and identify sounds in words, play games such as I Spy.
- Sing alphabet songs and talk about the names of the letters and the sounds they make.
- Make shapes of the letters out of play dough, write them in sand, write their own name in the air etc.
- Encourage your child to sing/ say songs and rhymes and tell you their own stories.
- Practise writing their own name correctly, using cursive script and holding their pencil the correct way.

## MATHEMATICAL DEVELOPMENT

- Practise counting groups of objects in pictures and stories. Ask your child to point to each one as they count. Pose questions such as how many altogether? Which number is one more?
- Count out loud with your child saying the names of the numbers clearly.
- Show numbers to your child (perhaps on number cards)
- Sing songs or rhymes with numbers in them; 10 In The Bed, 5 Little Ducks etc.
- Read stories with numbers in them, such as The Very Hungry Caterpillar.

- Use Mathematical language such as add, take away, how many and number names.
- Point to and say numbers around the house.
- Encourage children to identify shapes around them. Search for circles, squares, rectangles and triangles.
- Apply mathematics to real life- shapes, money, counting etc.

### **PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT**

- Encourage your child to handle small and large equipment.
- Allow your child to use scissors and develop their skills. Cutting along lines is particularly useful.
- Develop fine motor skills. Moulding play dough, threading beads, colouring in, drawing in sand, building with blocks, cutting and pasting are all great ways to engage your child and build strength in their fingers.
- Allow your child to run, hop, skip, jump and find different ways of travelling.
- Play games such as follow the leader and change actions to develop motor skills and coordination.

### **CREATIVE DEVELOPMENT**

- Allow your child to listen to and sing songs and rhymes.
- Engage in role play with your child.
- Explore different media- paint, pencils, crayons, play dough, sand, clay, beads, feathers, glitter and pipe cleaners.
- Encourage cutting and sticking activities.
- Dance to songs and make up actions to complement- e.g. Wheels on the Bus.

### **KNOWLEDGE AND UNDERSTANDING OF THE WORLD**

- Talk to your child about special times of the year and dates such as birthdays, Christmas and Easter
- Encourage them to explore their surroundings, particularly in the outdoor area
- Allow your child to observe animals and describe them
- Allow them to use simple tools; such as a small hand trowel
- Encourage them to feel different textured objects and describe using words like hard, soft, smooth etc.