

Understanding the World is one of the four specific areas of the EYFS.

This area of learning

- helps your child gain an understanding of his/her own world
- offers opportunities for your child to investigate and find out about things by using their senses
- develops observation skills
- helps your child to understand about changes around them, for example, seasons, change to ingredients during cooking activities
- encourages your child to ask questions about why things happen and how things work.
- encourages your child to find out about their local environment and the wider world
- gives your child the opportunity to understand and use information and communication technology
- develops your child's understanding of similarities and differences between themselves

and others, among families, communities and traditions

- helps to develop your child's awareness of the past, present and future

### How can you help your child?

- Make collections together and talk about them, for example, shells, seaweed, driftwood, pebbles from a visit to the beach.
- Talk to your child about events in their day.
- Visit places in your local environment and talk about what happens there, why people visit there.
- Let your child observe and talk about changes that happen e.g. the garden at different times of the year, changes to the ingredients during cooking.
- Take your child to visit different places, for example, beach, park, farm, zoo.
- Enjoy local walks to look at buildings. Let your child take photographs of their favourite places.

- Make tape recordings of sounds and play games, for example, “What is this sound?”
- Involve your child with gardening. Give your child a patch for planting and digging.
- Enjoy talking about different festivals together.
- Encourage your child to look back at photographs and discuss past events.

**Useful websites :**

[www.kidsinbrighton.co.uk](http://www.kidsinbrighton.co.uk) a resource of activities indoors and outdoors in venues across Brighton and Hove

[www.mosaicbrighton.org.uk](http://www.mosaicbrighton.org.uk) Black and Mixed Parentage family group listing events and latest news

[www.amazebrighton.org.uk](http://www.amazebrighton.org.uk) Advice and support to parents of children with special needs and disabilities. Empowers parents to help their children live fully socially included lives

[www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies](http://www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies) Interactive fun ideas and games to share at home and in the community with young children

## **The Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS)**

## **Areas of Learning and Development**



## **Understanding the World**