

Literacy Curriculum Map – Reception 2025 - 2026



Theme/ Term	Outside Inside – Autumn 1		
Writing Root Text	<i>Where the Wild Things Are</i> Maurice Sendak	<i>Bringing the Rain to Kapiti Plain</i> Verma Aardema	OR <i>Anansi</i> Gerald McDermott
Length	10+ sessions, 2+ weeks	10+ sessions, 2+ weeks	10+ sessions, 2+ weeks
Outcomes	Own version ‘wild thing’ narratives Labels, captions, oral re-telling, developing a new character	Tourist information leaflets Labels and captions, retellings, simple explanations	Booklets about spiders Labels and captions, call-and-response poems, descriptive posters, simple explanations

Knowing Yourself – Autumn 2			
<i>Look up!</i> <i>Nathan Bryon and</i> Dapo Adeola	OR <i>Halibut Jackson</i> David Lucas	<i>Ning and the Night Spirits</i> Adriana Fong	OR <i>I am Henry Finch</i> Alexis Deacon
10+ sessions, 2+ weeks	10+ sessions, 2+ weeks	10+ sessions, 2+ weeks	10+ sessions, 2+ weeks
Non-chronological reports Dialogue, diaries, re-telling (oral dictation), mini-autobiography, ship’s log	Narrative sequels Signs and labels, captions, invitations, thought bubbles, advertisements, letters of advice	Information texts about night spirits Posters, advice letters, party invitations	Guidebooks - How to Think Timetables, thought-bubbles, lists, commands, letters of advice

Theme/ Term	Talents & powers – Spring 1		
Writing Root Text	<i>The Magic Paintbrush</i> Julia Donaldson and Joel Stewart	<i>Little Red</i> Lynn Roberts and David Roberts	OR <i>Super Milly and the Super School Day</i> Stephanie Clarkson
Length	10+ sessions, 2+ weeks	10+ sessions, 2+ weeks	10+ sessions, 2+ weeks
Outcomes	Own version ‘overcoming’ tales Thought bubbles, labels, oral re-telling, writing in role, thank you letters	Alternative character versions Labels, notes of advice, adverts	Alternative character version Letters of encouragement; a retelling; song lyrics and job applications

Sowing a seed – Spring 2		
<i>The Tiny Seed</i> Eric Carle	<i>I Will Not Ever Never Eat a Tomato</i> Lauren Child	OR <i>The Extraordinary Gardener</i> Sam Boughton
10+ sessions, 2+ weeks	10+ sessions, 2+ weeks	10+ sessions, 2+ weeks
Advice leaflets Labels and captions, advice, retellings, writing in role, narrative, letter	Own stories about a fussy eaters Statements, writing in role, shopping lists	Narrative inspired by the original text Labels, letters of advice, instructions, narratives

Theme/ Term	Celebrating self – Summer 1			
Writing Root Text	<i>Weirdo</i> Zadie Smith and Nick Laird	OR <i>My Shadow is Pink</i> Scott Stuart	<i>So Much</i> Trish Cooke and Helen Oxenbury	<i>The Night Pirates</i> Pete Harris and Deborah Allwright
Length	10+ sessions, 2+ weeks	10+ sessions, 2+ weeks	10+ sessions, 2+ weeks	10+ sessions, 2+ weeks
Outcomes	Instructional guides to being brave Writing in role, letters, captions and labels, narrative retellings	Leaflet Innovated spoken rhymes, questions, notes and advice, lists, instructions	Own ‘So Much’ narrative poems Past tense sentences, writing in role, performance/ narrative poetry	‘How to be a pirate’ guides Writing in role, letters, labels and captions

Family & friends – Summer 2			
<i>And Tango Makes Three</i> Justin Richardson and Peter Parnell	<i>Hairy Maclary from Donaldson’s Dairy</i> Lynley Dodd	<i>Owl Frog</i> Kes Gray and Jim Field	OR <i>Izzy Gizmo</i> Pip Jones
10+ sessions, 2+ weeks	10+ sessions, 2+ weeks	10+ sessions, 2+ weeks	10+ sessions, 2+ weeks
Alternative version narratives Signs and lists, writing in role, letters of advice, ‘new baby’ cards	Alternative version narratives Character description, writing in role, letters, leaflets	Own version rhyming narratives Rhyming flipbooks, questions, captions and labels	Simple explanation Signage, letters of advice, lists, labelled diagrams