



Rokeby Primary School and Nursery EYFS Curriculum: Vocabulary

Our ethos

At Rokeby, our Early Years team believes that children should be immersed in a vibrant, language rich environment.

Opportunities to talk and use of vocabulary cards are key features of our Nursery and Reception areas. The following vocabulary lists are examples of how adults in our setting might teach, model, narrate and extend our children's language across and within the different areas of learning at levels appropriate to each child's understanding and next steps.

	Vocabulary: Communication and Language				
look	listen	understand	speak	talk	
word	mean	meaning	same	different	
similar	opposite	language	phrase	sentence	
ask	question	who	what	where	
when	how	which	why	answer	
rhyme	poem	story	retell	recall	
sequence	events	character	setting	predict	
version	narrative	storyline	storyteller	narrator	
instruction	follow	think	thought	opinion	
comment	idea	action	discuss	discussion	
feel	feelings	emotions	friend	partner	
conversation	turn	voice	tone	volume	
loud	soft	high	low	deep	
expression	emphasis	interesting	listener	audience	
I	you	he	she	we	
they	explain	reason	describe	experience	
show	tell	communicate	need	wish	
want	like	dislike	help	support	
vocabulary	pretend	imagine	imagination	role	

	Vocabulary: Personal, Social and Emotional Development			
happy	healthy	helpful	confident	polite
fair	friendly	responsible	trustworthy	well behaved
share	take turns	kind	gentle	behave
safe	unsafe	choice	choose	decide
right	wrong	good	consequence	action
similar	different	same	unique	special
like	dislike	enjoy	interest	prefer
belong	family	friendship	proud	reason
rules	think	agree	listen	instruction
talk	compliment	friend	care	help
potty	toilet	flush	wash	hands
soap	water	clean	protect	germs
dress	undress	put on	take off	independent
try	persevere	join in	challenge	risk
feel	feelings	calm	wait	relax

	Vocabulary: Physical Development				
exercise	muscles	strong	stamina	balance	
movement	coordination	space	safe	safely	
travel	forwards	backwards	sideways	direction	
on	off	over	under	through	
across	up	down	upper	lower	
top	bottom	left	right	around	
run	jump	leap	hop	skip	
walk	go	stop	wait	bend	
straight	stretch	pose	together	repeat	
throw	catch	kick	aim	target	
obstacle	apparatus	equipment	tools	yoga	
climb	land	speed	fast	slow	
large	small	big	little	next	

	Vocabulary: Physical Development				
fitness	healthy	unhealthy	practise	choice	
hold	nip	flip	grip	control	
fingers	thumb	wrist	strength	manipulate	
ride	pedal	scoop	pour	fill	
empty	tip	press	mould	shape	
pinch	twist	roll	scrunch	tweezers	
draw	sketch	picture	face	head	
body	arms	legs	hands	feet	
write	trace	doodle	line	circle	

	Vocabulary: Literacy - Reading				
book	story	fiction	non-fiction	information	
fact	cover	front	title	name	
language	writer	author	illustrator	page	
picture	photograph	print	left	right	
top	bottom	across	down	direction	
plot	events	beginning	middle	end	
contents	index	blurb	summary	back	
rhythm	rhyme	listen	сору	clap	
syllable	action	poem	verse	instruction	
fairy tale	character	setting	imagination	pretend	
like	dislike	favourite	adventure	predict	
think	recall	retell	remember	sequence	
phonics	grapheme	phoneme	sound	alliteration	
initial	medial	final	sound button	digraph	
segment	blend	word	sentence	letter	
tricky word	alphabet	phrase	mean	meaning	
read	reading	expression	emphasis	bold	

	Vocabulary: Literacy - Writing				
start	top	bottom	left	right	
across	down	page	write	writing	
line	straight	letter	capital	lower case	
alphabet	text	print	word	sentence	
hold	nip	flip	grip	control	
contents	index	blurb	summary	library	
full stop	question mark	speech bubble	idea	think	
phonics	phoneme	grapheme	segment	blend	
spell	spelling	space	size	shape	
form	formation	beginning	middle	end	
story	setting	characters	events	plot	
label	list	caption	description	instruction	
poem	rhyme	riddle	poster	message	
name	сору	trace	card	postcard	

	Vocabulary: Mathematics				
count	how many	set	group	number	
lots	few	more	fewer	less	
same	different	compare	greater than	less than	
count on	count back	forwards	backwards	number line	
before	after	between	next	pattern	
repeating pattern	numeral	first	last	sequence	
odd	even	estimate	accurate	guess	
problem	solve	calculate	add	all together	
total	sum	plus	addition	amount	
subtract	minus	take away	subtraction	difference	
number bond	number sentence	equals	make	practise	
digit	pair	share	double	half	
sort	match	partition	part	whole	

	Vocabulary: Mathematics				
record	answer	ten frame	arrange	quantity	
big	bigger	biggest	small	smaller	
smallest	long	longer	longest	little	
short	shorter	shortest	tall	taller	
tallest	heavy	heavier	heaviest	light	
lighter	lightest	large	larger	largest	
fill	capacity	full	nearly full	half full	
empty	nearly empty	time	now	soon	
then	later	today	tomorrow	yesterday	
position	on	off	under	over	
by	beside	next to	near	far away	
in front of	behind	up	down	direction	
shape	flat	solid	two dimensional	three dimensional	
circle	square	triangle	rectangle	oval	
cone	cylinder	cube	cuboid	sphere	

	Vocabulary: Understanding the World — Past and Present				
now	then	past	present	future	
today	yesterday	tomorrow	long ago	time	
day	week	month	year	yearly	
birthday	born	baby	Christmas	Easter	
timeline	sequence	pattern	first	last	
hundred	thousand	million	chronological	later	
earliest	latest	living memory	generation	before	
after	old	new	same	different	
similarities	differences	compare	change	next	
family	person	people	society	community	
job	role	important	firefighter	police	

	Vocabulary: U	nderstanding the World – Pa	st and Present	
doctor	nurse	key worker	ruler	famous
king	queen	prince	princess	knight
saint	inventor	invention	discovery	explorer
history	event	artefact	object	information
research	age	opinion	historic	pre-historic

	Vocabulary: Understand	ding the World — People, C	Culture and Communities	
place	environment	feature	world	country
town	city	village	countryside	field
wood	forest	tree	hill	mountain
pond	lake	sea	river	ocean
beach	coast	shore	land	cliff
island	landscape	farm	soil	rocks
visit	holiday	seaside	travel	journey
sand	grass	stream	waterfall	jungle
map	key	symbol	globe	atlas
route	path	road	motorway	street
footpath	bridge	park	school	building
house	home	shop	church	location
area	local area	live	life	address
warm	hot	cold	climate	weather
season	earth	same	similar	different
direction	left	right	straight	ahead
distance	near	far	next to	compare
people	community	society	culture	religion
custom	tradition	celebrate	celebration	festival
family	families	similarities	differences	England
Christmas	Easter	Diwali	Chinese New Year	Eid

Vocabulary: Understanding the World – The Natural World				
	Vocabulary: Of	iderstanding the World – The	e Natural World	
explore	investigate	describe	notice	observe
natural	world	environment	plant	animal
skin	flesh	fur	feathers	scales
hard	soft	rough	smooth	patterned
tall	short	long	heavy	light
compare	similarities	differences	pattern	change
weather	warm	hot	cold	freezing
snow	ice	frost	fog	wind
rain	cloud	sleet	sun	rainbow
seasons	winter	spring	summer	autumn
year	experiment	discover	think	predict
senses	look	see	sight	touch
taste	smell	hear	hearing	listen
grow	growth	healthy	water	sunlight
air	nutrients	soil	roots	stem
leaf	stalk	petal	bud	flower
tree	trunk	branch	bark	twig
food	exercise	warmth	shelter	rest
born	birth	life	living thing	life cycle
baby	toddler	child	teenager	adult
mother	father	egg	incubate	hatch
changing	dissolving	melting	heating	cooling
material	stretch	squash	squeeze	twist
turn	mix	poke	pinch	move
push	pull	speed	fast	slow

Vocabulary: Expressive Arts and Design — Creating with Materials					
draw	paint	cut	stick	join	

Vocabulary: Expressive Arts and Design — Creating with Materials				
tear	pull	fold	roll	press
thread	weave	snip	punch	clip
collage	print	mould	shape	build
picture	model	portrait	sculpture	artist
design	plan	idea	decide	choose
invent	evaluate	change	fix	improve
decorate	illustrate	make	material	media
chalk	wax	crayon	pastel	charcoal
fabric	ribbon	lace	paper	card
tissue	feathers	sequins	glue	clay
dough	playdough	salt dough	shaving foam	Gellibaff
cornflour	sand	natural materials	loose parts	wool
string	pegs	tape	paper fasteners	staple
line	straight	curved	thick	thin
wavy	long	short	tall	zig-zag
curly	jagged	vertical	horizontal	diagonal
spiral	faint	bold	fine	heavy
pattern	stripes	dots	marks	circles
colour	shade	tone	light	dark
dull	bright	warm	cool	contrast
soft	pale	deep	colourful	mix
texture	hard	rough	spiky	bumpy
wet	dry	shiny	glossy	matt
silky	smooth	flat	furry	fuzzy
shape	round	circular	regular	irregular
two dimensional	three dimensional	solid	pointed	size
tool	equipment	brush	roller	dabber
spatula	glue spreader	rolling pin	cutter	scissors
hole punch	sponge	frame	easel	construction kit
construct	create	stack	balance	strengthen
tower	base	top	bottom	side
prop	pretend	play	role	imagine

Vocabulary: Expressive Arts and Design — Creating with Materials						
food	arrange	place	ingredients	mix		
peel	slice	chop	cut	spread		
squeeze	juice	pour	taste	smell		

	Vocabulary: Expressive	Arts and Design — Being Ima	ginative and Expressive	
listen	respond	story	poem	rhyme
join in	actions	phrases	discuss	plot
character	setting	events	tell	retell
narrate	act	change	invent	version
perform	take turns	role	imagine	pretend
performance	stage	opinion	like	dislike
sing	song	nursery rhyme	tune	words
verse	chorus	music	sound	rhythm
pattern	slow	fast	long	short
high	low	loud	soft	quiet
pitch	volume	tempo	beat	repeat
compose	play	instrument	percussion	band
shake	tap	bang	scrape	blow
pluck	drum	tambourine	bells	triangle
wooden block	castanets	maracas	guiro	xylophone
tambour	glockenspiel	autoharp	keyboard	piano
move	dance	wiggle	turn	spin
twist	twirl	slide	start	stop
stamp	rock	sway	bounce	leap
forwards	backwards	sideways	left	right
different	direction	space	level	partner
combine	connect	sequence	practise	rehearse