

Year 1 – Paws, Claws & Whiskers Topic – Autumn 1, 2026

This term, we will be learning about animals with paws, claws and whiskers. Below is a list of key words and phrases that are related to our topic. We feel it is important for the children to have some understanding of the basic vocabulary before they begin the topic. In order to support your child's learning, we would like you to spend some time talking about the meaning and understanding of these words and phrases. We encourage parents to use their home language to talk about these words and phrases to help children understand these words, especially if another language is spoken at home.

Pupil Challenge:

Are you a Word Wizard? Can you spot any of these keywords being used in the correct context outside of school (eg. in newspapers, shops, advertisements, etc)? Earn merit points by photographing or bringing in the articles where the words are being used for us to share in class.

Farm	Nest
Pet	Prey
Zoo	Predator
Zoo keeper	Camouflage
Wild animal	Habitat
Farm animal names – horse, cow, etc	Care
Zoo/wild animal names – tiger, eagle, etc	Protect
Pets – dog, cat, hamster, etc	Diet
Animal features – paw, claw, whiskers, legs, wings, horns, tail, teeth, scales, etc	Vet
Fierce	Habitat
Scary	Soft
Dangerous	Rough
Sharp	Smooth
Hurt	Scaly
Gentle	Herbivore
Observe	Omnivore
Explore	Carnivore
Investigate	Similar
	Different

Animals are amazing! Why not take photos of a favourite pet together and describe their habits, likes and dislikes? You could also put bird food in the garden and visit a local park or nature reserve for a spot of bird watching. Make a note of their markings and features then use a simple spotting book or app to identify different species. Alternatively, visiting the local pet shop or petting zoo would allow you to observe a wide range of different animals.

Thank you for your support.

Miss Stutman and Mrs Suleyman.