



Curriculum Newsletter

Spring 1: Nursery



Communication & Language

In our communication and language skills, we will introduce our 'story telling' baskets. Through this activity we intend to focus on developing the children's vocabulary, introducing them to new words and explaining the meaning of these new words. We will start to use these everyday words when communicating with our friends during independent provision time. We will continue to develop the children's listening skills as well as building on their memory skills in preparation for RWI sessions. We will also work in talking groups on a range of fun activities. Some children will be working on communicating in a simple sentence, while others will be using connectives to link their thoughts together.

Mathematical Development

This half term we will continue to explore counting songs to 5. Children will continue to work on reciting and recognising numbers to 5. We will be working on touch counting accurately and identifying how many objects there are in total. Through a range of practical activities and discussion, we will develop our language related to shape and size. We will explore and begin to compare the different length and sizes of worms.

Key Vocabulary: careful counting, total, short, long, shorter, longer, longest, shortest



PSED

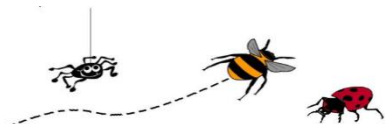
This half term we will continue to develop our turn taking and sharing skills. We will also be helping the new children settle in and become familiar with our Nursery environment, as well as the routines and expectations. We will be encouraging children to play alongside others through a range of games and social group activities. We will also be providing the children with activities that require them to share resources and begin to problem solve.

Key Vocabulary: Rules, routine, expectations, share, turn-taking.



Literacy

During our daily story time, children will listen to stories with increased attention and recall key events. This half term we have chosen several mini-beast books for the children to explore. The children will develop their reading skills by describing the main story events, characters, and settings. We will discuss the problems and resolutions that occur in these stories. We will continue to encourage children to access books independently in our reading area ensuring that they are holding books the correct way and turning the pages carefully. In phonics, we will be focusing on rhyme, initial sounds, and alliteration. Our younger children will be focusing on tuning into the sounds within the environment and recognising and naming familiar sounds.



Knowledge & Understanding of the World

In our investigation area we will continue to focus on the change of seasons and the weather in Wintertime. We will talk about the weather in the Arctic and Antarctic. We will show children where they are on a globe. We are also going to be exploring different mini beasts such as butterflies, bees, spiders, worms and many more. We will be thinking about the habitats these creatures live in and how we can care for them in our local environment and outside area.

Key Vocabulary: Winter, cold, snow, coat, gloves, hat, Arctic, Antarctic, minibeast, habitat, looking after.



Enrichment

We will be having bug hunts in our outside area and creating habitats for the minibeast we find!

Important Dates

- School Closes for Half Term – Friday 9th February 2024
- School Reopens for Spring 2 – Monday 19th February 2024
- Easter Holidays – Friday 22nd March 2024
- Return to school – Monday 8th April 2024

Mini Beasts

Adults: Miss Swan, Mrs Marrington, Mrs Waugh

Creative Curriculum

Our topic this half term is 'Minibeasts.' We will be exploring the different types of minibeasts; such as spiders, worm and caterpillars, and thinking about the habitats they live in and how we can help look after them. The children will use magnifying glasses on a "minibeast hunt" and discussing how we can create ideal habitats in our outside area. We will also be investigating life cycles and the changes some minibeasts go through.

Key Vocabulary: Minibeast, habitat, life cycle, changes.

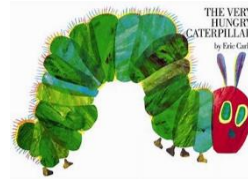


Focus Texts

Focus Books this term:

'Mad About Minibeasts' by Giles Andreae
'The Very Hungry Caterpillar' by Eric Carle
'What the Ladybird Heard' Julia Donaldson

We will also read information and Non-Fiction books about our topic Minibeasts



Useful Websites

- www.bbc.co.uk/tiny-happy-people
- www.phonicsplay.co.uk
- www.oxfordowl.co.uk
- www.topmarks.co.uk

Physical Development

This half term we will continue to encourage good practice of washing and drying hands after visiting the toilet. To develop their fine motor skills, children will take part in daily finger gym activities such as threading, using tweezers to pick up small items, pegs and pegboards, dough disco, scissor skills and many more. In writing area, we will be modelling how to hold a pencil correctly and begin to show control when making marks on paper. The older children will be working on holding a pencil using a tripod grip.

Key Learning This Term

- We will be developing the children's listening and attention skills through daily rhyming and alliteration so that children are beginning to identify rhyming words with confidence.
- Children will learn about different minibeast, their habitats and how to care for living things
- Some children will be developing their pencil control so they can hold a pencil using a tripod grip, while others will be developing good pencil control.

Reminders

Please ensure all clothing is labelled and that spare clothes are provided in bags if needed.

Be sure to access Tapestry regularly to see what your child has been learning within Nursery. You can also use Tapestry to share any amazing achievements or learning that has taken place at home.

How you can support at home

Play simple turn taking games with your child and encourage them to share their toys with their siblings or yourself.

- Practice the 'Show Me 5' rules at home and discuss the importance of rules.
- Ask children what they have learnt at Nursery encouraging and modelling using full sentences.