

## Expressive Art and Design

The children will create their own 'minibeasts' using different media - drawing, painting, collage, and in play dough and clay. Junk modelling and construction materials will be used to create 3d 'giant bugs'. They will also design and make menus and resources for our garden centre café and flower shop. In dance the children will explore moving like different minibeasts and will re-enact the story of the Very Hungry Caterpillar. They will also learn songs linked to the theme such as 'There's a worm at the bottom of the garden' and 'A caterpillar crawls', as well as music and songs linked to the story of 'Jack and the Beanstalk'.

The children's imagination will be developed as they take on roles in our café and garden centre and through small world and puppet play.

## Mathematics

Throughout this term we will continue to develop the children's deeper understanding of numbers to 10, particularly focusing on the automatic recall of number bonds to 5 (and beyond), including subtraction facts. We will continue to practise verbally counting beyond 20, helping the children recognise the pattern of the counting system.

They will solve problems including halving, doubling and sharing (doubling spots on a ladybird; sharing flies between the frogs or frogs onto lily pad leaves). They will also explore and represent patterns within numbers up to 10, including evens and odds.

The children will use money to buy and sell in the café and they will be using 2d and 3d shapes to make minibeasts. They will explore pattern and symmetry on insects, especially butterflies.

## Personal, Social and Emotional Development

The children will continue to develop their friendships through playing together, sharing and taking turns. They will explore the feelings of characters in the stories and will use this as a starting point for discussing their own feelings in different situations. They will explore questions such as 'Who cares for them? Why is it important to care for all living things? What have their parents taught them as they have grown? Who makes them feel better if they are poorly? Why is it important to eat healthy foods?

They will be encouraged to respect the feelings of other children and adults.

## Communication and language

There will be continued emphasis on listening to stories and sharing both fiction and non-fiction books linked to our topic. The children will continue to re-tell, change and make up their own stories using drama; small world play; puppets; props and costumes (Talk for Writing). Topic work will be used to introduce new vocabulary and develop the children's questioning skills. Talk time will focus on developing the children's ability to use past, present and future tenses appropriately.

## Reception Class, Summer 2022

### 'In the Garden'

This term, we will be planting seeds and finding out what our flowers and vegetables need to grow. We will also be learning about the little creatures that live in our gardens as we go on bug hunts and engage in lots of exciting activities based on minibeasts, across the different areas of learning.

**The children's interests will continually be used to inform the direction which our topic takes.**

## Understanding the World- Past and Present, People, Cultures and Communities, The Natural World

The children will plant flowers, herbs and vegetables in our class garden, finding out what they need to grow.

They will look at the similarities and differences between different living things and each other. They will learn about life cycles as they observe the changes in our caterpillars as they feed and grow before making their cocoons and turning into butterflies. They will discuss and draw pictures of what they observe. The children will also find out more about where our food comes from, looking at farming now and in the past, using non-fiction texts and storybooks and hopefully a farm visit!

## Literacy- Reading and Writing

Daily sharing, reading of quality modern and traditional stories such as 'The Teeny Weeny Tadpole', 'The Very Hungry Caterpillar', 'Oliver's Vegetables' and 'Jack and the Beanstalk'. There will be a strong emphasis on developing the children's understanding through retelling stories and narratives using their own words and recently introduced vocabulary. Our daily phonic sessions will continue, following the Floppy's Phonics programme. The children will be encouraged to use their phonic skills to write words and simple sentences independently. They will have the opportunity to write for different purposes e.g. labelling life cycles; writing an invitation to the Ugly Bug Ball; a menu for our garden centre cafe; instructions for planting a bean seed.

## Physical Development

A range of activities, including dough disco will be used to develop the children's fine motor control. They will be encouraged to hold their pencil correctly /effectively.

During our PE sessions we will continue to work on becoming independent with dressing and undressing. Our focus this term will be on developing the children's ball and multi-skills and we will also be starting our 'balanceability' bike riding programme. We will continue talking about what our body needs to keep fit and healthy.

## How you can help

Please continue to share books and stories regularly and ask your child questions about what you have read.

Continue to help your child learn their sounds and tricky words.

Practise letter formation and writing tricky words. Help your child to count, recognise, order and write numbers to 20 and beyond.

Thank you