

Dear Reception and Nursery Parents, here is our topic for this half term. Please use it to aid your own research or bring things into class to support our learning. Have fun!



As communicators we will:

Listen to instructions and follow them accurately. Respond to what we hear with relevant questions and comments. Answer how and why questions about mini beasts. We will use past, present and future tense when talking about events. We are learning to develop our own narratives and explanations by connecting ideas or events.

As readers and writers we will:

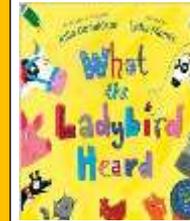
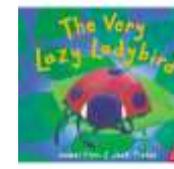
We are reading 'What the ladybird heard' by Julia Donaldson, 'The very lazy ladybird', 'The very greedy bee', 'The very hungry caterpillar'. We will sequence events from a story and write about characters. We will draw a map of how to find the animals on the farm. Read the Christina Rossette Poem "Hurt no living things." We will identify rhyming words and alliteration. We will write poems relating to mini beasts, plants, flowers and trees. We will read non-fiction books about mini beasts and write life cycles and information texts about mini beasts. We will compare fiction/non-fiction books about butterflies.

As mathematicians we will:

Count reliably with numbers 1-20 and begin to count in 2's, 5's and 10's. We will estimate a number and check by counting. We will solve problems including halving and sharing. We will use everyday language to talk about size, weight, position of mini beasts. We will explore capacity of bottles and containers. We will measure time and weight in our research lab. Sort bugs into different categories. Use Positional language to describe where we found bugs. Create symmetrical pictures of butterflies and lady birds.

As individuals and friends we will:

Discuss the children's pets and how they care for them. What do you do to look after them? How should animals be treated? Relate this to how we treat each other and our friends. We show sensitivity to others needs and feelings. We can manage our own feelings and listen to others suggestions about how to complete a task. We will the Easter story and think about how Jesus was treated.



As healthy movers we will:

Handle tools in the classroom safely. Using play dough and clay we will make our hands strong for writing. Form recognisable letters which are correctly formed. Begin to use anticlockwise movement and retrace vertical lines. We are beginning to be able to write on the lines using the tripod grip. We are learning to hop and skip in time to music. We can talk about the importance of exercise and a healthy diet. We can make healthy choices at lunch time.

What lives around us?



As artists, actors and musicians:

We will create symmetrical butterfly pictures. Design and paint own mini beast stone. Look at a piece of abstract art by Henry Matisse called 'The Snail'. Create collages of other mini-beasts in this style by ripping up paper. Use natural resources to create collages of mini-beasts. Make a paper plate ladybird. Create observational drawings of leaves, plants and trees and insects using microscopes. We will become scientists in our Bug Research role play area.

As explorers and investigators we will

Explore the local area and identify what lives there. Think about what they eat and how they grow. Make observations about animals and mini beasts. Learn the life cycle of a butterfly. Feed the caterpillars and watch them grow and wait for them to change. Look at lifecycle of ladybirds and frogs. Make a mini beast hotel and record the animals that visit. Learn about appropriate habitats. Go on a bug hunt looking for dark and damp places where mini beasts will be hiding. Identify different leaves and plants that mini beasts like to eat. Look at maps of local area. Locate habitats that. Use paint programme on the computer to create a mini beast picture. Research mini beasts using the internet and I-pads. Use video cameras to record our hunt for mini-beasts.

As effective learners we will:

Enjoy what we set out to do and evaluate how well it has gone. Draw upon our prior knowledge and share this with our friends. Concentrate on a task without being distracted. Become more confident in finding the tools and materials I need for a particular project or idea.