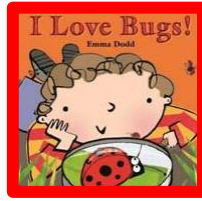




## Reception Newsletter- Week beginning: 15.04.24

### Our story of the week- 'I Love Bugs!'



Personal, Social and Emotional Development- We are enjoying spending time learning with our friends both inside and outside in the warmer weather! It has been so lovely to see how the children's joy for others has grown over the months. I love watching them congratulate each other, even when it doesn't directly affect them – they are growing into such great friends to one another! This makes our school a wonderful place to be! In Jigsaw this week, after listening to the chime we thought about what a family is. We decided that friends can be like family if we are lonely or have lost family members and that we can always add to our family. We talked about the jobs we have at home and why it is important to do them.

On Friday, Dinky Ponies visited us, and we learnt how to care for them, groom them and love them. They were so gentle and thought it was a great use of our Penny Drive money from last year.

Communication and Language- We all enjoyed sharing what we did over the Easter holidays. I loved seeing all your pictures! We have had lovely discussions about what we know about minibeasts and have learnt the names of lots of new minibeasts. On Wednesday, Zoo Lab visited Reception and showed us a hissing cockroach, a desert rat, an African land snail, a corn snake, a millipede and a tarantula. The children were impeccably behaved throughout the session and the 'bug lady' commented on what well behaved and curious children we have. There were lots of questions and the lady was impressed with how much the children wanted to share their ideas with her and the rest of the class. I am one very proud teacher!

Physical Development- We love being active at outside time and especially being on the field using various sports equipment e.g. bats and balls and footballs. This week we played the game scatter ball for the first time. It's a little like rounders but we get to throw the balls. We all had a great time cheering our team mates on and working collaboratively with each other. The large bricks are very popular and already this term we have had underground houses, dens and aeroplanes! The children remember to put their hard hats and high viz jackets on when building. We have been developing our fine motor skills exploring play dough, using tweezers, threading and using lots of different mark-making materials inside and outside.

Literacy- We have all changed phonics groups this term and continue to join in really well with our phonics and reading. As well as reading every day in phonics, we also read to a teacher once or twice a week 1:1. They are very impressed with how well we can read now! Keep up with reading every night at home and remember to indicate in reading diaries that reading has been done – it's very exciting to see how much progress children make when they read every day! We have written some





great sentences about what we found on our minibeast hunt and we talked about the habitat in which we found them. We have also been doing lots and lots of independent writing. We love to write on whiteboards, clipboards and we even use chalk and water paint to write outside. The non-fiction books about minibeasts are a great hit and we have found them very interesting to read.

Mathematics- We have continued to build our knowledge of number through a variety of activities in our continuous provision. We have been counting up to twenty, exploring all the different ways to make ten using Numicon and our fingers and have made teen numbers using Numicon. We know that 12 is one lot of ten and 2 more. We have played lots of games using 10s frames and can say how many counters we have without counting – just like magic! We have also been counting in 10 – we do this to the tune 'I can sing a rainbow... 10 and 20 and 30 and 40 etc' Ask us to sing it to you!

Understanding the World- We are very interested in our new minibeasts topic and have also started to look for minibeasts outside! We had lovely discussions about what we know about minibeasts and what we want to find out. We are going to learn so much this term! We are spotting lots of changes in the world and are VERY excited that we don't have to wear a coat outside most of the time.

Expressive Arts and Design- We have painted minibeasts and made minibeasts out of natural materials. We really enjoyed collecting lots of leaves, twigs, petals and grass to make our pictures. We had to think about colour and shape to make sure our friends could guess the minibeast we had created. We also love singing assembly on Wednesdays – have the children taught you the songs yet?

#### Supporting learning at home

- Learn to / practise writing your surname.
- Practise writing numbers to twenty – can you say one more / one less than any of these numbers.
- Go on a minibeast hunt.
- Read every day!

#### Reading Tip

Encourage children to use expression in their voices when reading, especially for the voices of different characters. This makes the story or ditty even more interesting.

#### Notes for next week – WB 22/4/24

- Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> the dental nurses are in to have a chat to the Reception children about the importance of good oral hygiene.
- Please remember to bring your child's phonics pack and books to school every day (but especially Wednesday as that is when we change books).

## Have a great weekend!

