

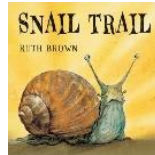


Reception Newsletter - Week beginning: 22.04.24

We are enjoying our Term 5 topic - Minibeasts and Growing

“What is happening in our garden?”

Our story of the week - ‘Snail Trail’ by Ruth Brown



Personal, Social and Emotional Development- This week we have been taking turns and sharing all by ourselves! We know that we all need to have a go and that a good idea would be to get the sand timer so that everyone has the same amount of time playing with something as everyone else. We know it is so important to work together as a team, using our kind words and hands at all times. In our Jigsaw session this week we have been thinking about what makes a good friend. We have talked about feeling lonely, how a good friend can help when we are sad, and what we look for in a good friend.

Communication and Language- We are continuing to enjoy learning and chatting about minibeasts this week. We have learnt all about slugs and snails and loved using the new words we heard to describe them, such as ‘foot’, ‘spiral’ and ‘antennae’. We have enjoyed sharing stories and poems about minibeasts, listening out for rhyming words and amazing describing words. This term our role play area is a vets. We love looking after the animals, especially the puppies and kittens.

Physical Development- We love being active at outside time. We have been using lots of different sports equipment, enjoying lots of water play and have enjoyed using the balance boards and cars this week. In PE, we have continued to practise our ball skills, sending and receiving large balls both by ourselves and with a partner. We continue to develop our fine motor skills through play with playdough, drawing spirals in glittery flour and paint, using tweezers, handwriting, cutting and using various building and constructing toys. We have also been working really hard on forming our letters correctly.

Literacy- We have done lots of independent writing in our role-play areas and on clipboards and white boards around our classrooms. In our classrooms we are also continuing to look at a variety of non-fiction books about minibeasts and have read lots of story books. We continue to enjoy our reading lessons. Keep up with reading every night at home and make a note in the red reading diary when you have read.

Mathematics- We have continued to build our knowledge of number through a variety of activities in our continuous provision. In our maths sessions we have been counting up to thirty in 1s and also counting in 2s, 5s, and 10s. We have been exploring all the different ways to make various numbers using Numicon and our fingers and have made teen numbers using counters and ten frames. We know that 12 is one lot of ten and 2 more



and that it has one ten and two ones. We have also explored making number bonds to ten using ten frames and two different coloured counters.

Understanding the World- This week we have made a class minibeast hotel on our field. We know minibeasts like dark, damp places so we know we can lift up wood, stones and bricks in our gardens to explore what is living underneath and have tried to re-create this in our garden. We can't wait to see what decides to live there! We also made snail pizzas! We made the base into a spiral and then added our own toppings. They were delicious and were a great afternoon snack for us!

Expressive Arts and Design- This week we have really enjoyed exploring spirals in different ways. We have created spirals using paint, chalks, our fingers in flour and glitter and even playdough. We have looked at the artist Matisse this week. We enjoyed looking at and chatting about his pictures, particularly his 'Snail' collage. We had a go at making our own 'Snail' art by tearing paper to make different square shapes and sticking them into a spiral shape. We continue to love joining in with whole school singing assemblies – the sound we make when we sing as a whole school is amazing!

Supporting learning at home

- Search the garden and write a list of minibeasts you find!
- Practise writing numbers to twenty – Can you say one more / less than any of these numbers?
- Can you build numbers to 20 using Lego? How many different ways can you make each number?
- Practise throwing and catching large and small balls by yourself and with a friend.

Notes for next week 29.04.24

- Please make sure your child always has a coat in school – you never know when the weather might change.
- Please make sure book bags and phonics folders are in school every day. We read with children 1:1 every week and sometimes more if we have time.

Have a wonderful weekend. Fingers crossed for another weekend in the sun!

