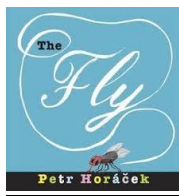


## Reception Newsletter- Week beginning: 30.04.24

### Term 5 topic- Minibeasts

#### What is happening in our garden?

#### Our story of the week- 'The Fly' by Petr Horáček



**Personal, Social and Emotional Development-** This week in our Jigsaw session 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, and what we look for in a good friend.

**Communication and Language-** We have had many discussions about minibeasts and chatted to each other about what we found on our minibeast hunt! We loved finding out about flies and think they're quite 'disgusting'!!! We did find out though, that as disgusting as their habits are, they are necessary for the food chain. Ask us about the story of the old lady who swallowed a fly! We thought it was hilarious!

**Physical Development-** We love being active at outside time and are really enjoying playing on our lovely field. We have been doing lots of activities to develop our fine motor skills, exploring play dough, practising our handwriting, using scissors for a variety of cutting activities and using various building and constructing toys.

**Literacy-** We have done lots of independent writing in our role-play areas and on clipboards and white boards around our classrooms. We have also looked at a variety of non-fiction books about minibeasts and have read lots of story books. We are becoming confident readers and we are so proud of how far we have come! **Keep reading daily at home!** This week we have written sentences all about our dinky pony visits. We have been learning about adjectives and how they make our writing more interesting to read.

**Mathematics-** We continue to be excellent mathematicians! We love to use our knowledge and explore the maths apparatus in the classrooms. We know that maths is everywhere and that we use it all the time, sometimes without knowing! We have been concentrating on knowing our numbers to 20 really well this week – recognising them, writing them, ordering them, matching to them, knowing what one more and one less would be and doubling and halving numbers within 10. We were really good at spotting odd and even numbers using Numicon. We confidently subitise numbers on a dice. This week we also looked at 'What is 100?' We investigated 100 in different ways, steps, jumps, paperchains and towers. We realised that it was so much easier to make this number in groups of 10.

**Understanding the World-** This week we had a chat about the different parts of an insect and labelled a fly. We have also got some baby caterpillars in the classroom which we are very excited to watch grow. We are getting really good at spotting minibeasts in

the environment and know exactly where to look for them as we have been learning all about their micro habitats.

**Expressive Arts and Design**- We have enjoyed making lots of buzzy fly patterns in pens, glue and glitter like in the story of the week. We also used brushes and wooden blocks to make fly pictures. Box modelling is always a favourite in our classes. This week, some of us made flies out of kitchen rolls. We love our vets and enjoy making up stories to go with our play. The pregnant dog and the naughty cats are a class favourite!

#### **Supporting learning at home**

- What minibeasts can you spot in your garden? Can you draw one and label it?
- Recognise shapes in the environment.
- Can you make a group of 100? Try making it in groups of 10s.
- Practise writing numbers the correct way round. Can you write numbers to 20, and beyond? We'd love to see your work.

#### **Notes for next week 06.05.24**

- School is back on Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> May. Enjoy the Bank Holiday Weekend!
- The Maths Stay and Play sessions are next week on the Wednesday and Thursday at 1.30pm. If you haven't signed up, please do.
- If you have any school pants and socks at home, please could you send them back to school as our stock is running slim.

**Have a lovely Bank Holiday weekend!**