

Understanding the world

This term, we will be exploring life in the great outdoors. We will start by looking at different types of minibeasts including spiders, ladybirds and caterpillars. We will nurture our own ladybirds in the classroom and watch them change. We will explore the wilderness behind nursery, searching for creepy crawlies to examine. We will then move onto looking at different plants and begin to name common flowers we find in the garden. We will grow our own flowers and plants as well as harvest our crops of raspberries, blackberries and herbs from our foundation stage garden.

Literacy

This term, our stories will relate to creepy crawlies and plants. We will start by reading the classic book "The Hungry Caterpillar". Children will sequence the story and act it out using props and costumes. We will then look closely at rhyming words using the favourite nursery rhyme "Incy Wincy Spider". Children will begin to create rhyming strings of words, such as cat, mat & hat. After the holidays, we will look at the traditional tale "Jack and the Beanstalk", where we will try to grow our own broad bean beanstalks! We will finish by sharing the story of "Peter Rabbit".

PSE Development

We will have the weird and wonderful creatures from Zoolab visit us. Children will get to see and touch a variety of large creepy crawlies from all over the world. We will also welcome our new starters to the unit and help them settle in. As part of our topic, we will think about how to care for plants and animals, including creepy crawlies that not everybody likes. We will consider how to stay safe and clean when handling minibeasts. We will discuss the actions of characters from stories and consider whether they were right or wrong.

Down in the Garden

Lower Foundation Summer



Physical

We will continue to enjoy a range of activities designed to develop our gross and fine motor skills. We will continue to use pencils with more control, and most children will be able to write their name independently early in the term. We will move in different ways, such as scurrying like a spider, growing like a tree and being washed out of the spout like poor Incy Wincy! We will make "Giant tea" outside using large containers and pretend to be Venus flytraps!

Expressive Arts

We will sing lots of songs to link with our topic including "There was an old lady who swallowed a fly". Children will continue to use simple percussion instruments to add sounds effects to stories, such as rain for the rhyme "Incy Wincy Spider". We will look closely at the work of the famous artist Vincent Van Gogh, particularly his work on sunflowers. We will create our own still life pictures of flowers which we will display in the classroom. We will also create a class Hungry Caterpillar and feed him paintings of food!

Mathematics

Children will begin to add together single digit numbers. They will be supported by physical materials such as beans, cubes and toys. They will write numbers up to 10 independently and begin to introduce them into their play, for example, by writing 3 apples on a shopping list. They will recognise and recreate patterns in nature, such as the symmetrical wings on a butterfly. They will sort minibeasts according to how many legs and wings they have. Using flower petals they will create their own colourful repeating patterns. They will begin to find missing numbers from sequences and will begin to order numbers to 20.