



During this half term our enquiry is: Is it an insect?

This is a very popular topic with the children which allows them to understand how to classify minibeasts into those that are insects and those that are not. It encourages the children to look closely like a scientist and use identification charts to identify creatures they find.

A large part of learning in Reception, stems from children interests and fascinations. We wonder what they will want to explore this term.

Key texts: The Very Hungry Caterpillar by Eric Carle and Monkey Puzzle by Julia Donaldson

Area of Learning	Activities / areas to be covered in school	Possible learning at home
<b>Personal Emotional Social Development</b>	I will be learning to  Talk about how we can look after creatures in our environment Identify and modify feelings socially and emotionally for self and others Talk about factors that support overall health and well-being Weekly circle time discussions- discussing how to stay safe at home, in school and when out and about. Developing independence skills further leading up to transition to Yr 1	Continue to encourage your child's self-help skills wherever possible.
<b>Physical Development</b>	I will learning to...  PE- using the large apparatus, taking part in team games Jump Start Johnny, Yoga sessions Develop fine motor skills through gross motor activities, cutting food, Jungle Journey activities Concentrating on letter formation.	Encourage correct letter formation where possible.  Support your child if possible to skip (Not with a rope) Skipping is a complex skill composed of and built upon several more basic skills.
<b>Communication &amp; Language</b>	I will be learning to...  Retell stories with actions Listening to stories without pictures Talking about what is happening in the story Listen to other children's ideas and responding to them.	Continue to share books and stories together. If possible, encourage your child to listen to stories on CDs without books.



	<p>Making up own stories.          Talk about caring for the environment, the animals and ourselves.          Role-play and small world play          Talking about changes in the environment and noticing signs of Summer          Show and Tell opportunities          Talking about our school trip and the parts they enjoyed the most          Key vocabulary- minibeast, insect, classify, head, thorax, abdomen, six legs, habitat, metamorphosis, change, chrysalis, antennae, lava, pupa, names of minibeasts, arachnids</p>	
<p><b>Literacy</b></p>	<p>Daily phonics consolidating phonemes covered in Phase 2 and 3.          Reading words with short vowels CVCC, short vowels CVCC CCVC, short vowels CCVCC CCCVC CCCVCC          longer words longer words compound words root words ending in: -ing, -ed /t/, -ed /id/ /ed/ -est          Reading tricky words covered in Phase 2 and 3 along with Phase 4 tricky words- said, have, so, do, like, some, come, love, do, were, here, little, says, there, when, what, one, out, today.          Little Wandle reading sessions- decoding, prosody and comprehensions          Using these to write simple sentences, lists, stories, captions, labels in focused and child-initiated activities.          Writing simple sentences remembering finger spaces, capital letter at the beginning, full stop at the end and letters sitting on the line.          Writing a thank you letter to Butterfly World          Ordering stories with actions.          Explore non-fiction books about minibeasts and insects. Children will be shown how to use the index, the contents page and the glossary to find out facts about insects and minibeasts.          We will be sharing many picture books about minibeasts and insects and encouraging them to listen, retell and to answer questions about the different stories.          Monster Phonics will be available for the children to use to consolidate their sound recognition on the iPads</p> <p>Key texts this term will include The Very Hungry Caterpillar, Monkey Puzzle, The Bad Tempered Ladybird, The Very Greedy Bee, AARRGH Spider! The Crunching Munching Caterpillar, What the Ladybird Heard, Superworm, Mad About Minibeasts, Incy Wincy Spider, Snail Trail, The Snail and the Whale amongst others.</p>	<p>Visit the library together to search for non-fiction and fiction books about minibeasts and insects.</p> <p>Practising sound recognition and listening to your child read. Check understanding of what they are reading through questioning.</p> <p>Writing shopping lists together, for example.</p>

# Year Reception

# Summer 1 Overview



<b>Mathematics</b>	<p>Order numbers to 10 Add and subtract with numbers up to 10. Double numbers to 5 Naming and using 2D and 3D shapes Sorting and recording skills will be developed as they sort minibeasts into groups. We will also be exploring symmetry as we look at butterfly wings. The children will use different ways to measure the different insects found.</p>	<p>Playing board games together  Counting for different purposes  Exploring money together and playing shops. Support your child to use money in real-life situations.</p>
<b>Understanding the World</b>	<p>Technology Staying safe whilst using the iPads. Using the iPads and computers to search for interesting facts and information  Exploring questions about minibeasts. The children will learn how to classify the minibeasts- is it an insect or not? They will begin to understand what constitutes an insect. We will discuss the different habitats of various minibeasts found and explore the Bug Hotels in the school grounds. We will have the opportunities to go on minibeast/insect hunts in our garden, the school grounds We will be watching the life cycle of a butterfly unfold with real caterpillars in class and discussing how to care for the small creatures we find. Trip to Butterfly World Looking at old artefacts and shops as we visit the museum The children will use ICT to further explore our topic and will have the chance to use search engines to support their wonderings and iPads to photograph what they find. Baking activities</p>	<p>Use different search engines to find out facts about different insects. Create your own bug hotel in your garden Remind the children to return insects and minibeasts where they found them.</p>
<b>Expressive Arts &amp; Design</b>	<p>The children will continue to have access to a range of different materials and media over the next half term. We will continue to encourage the children to plan and design what they are going to make. They will also be encouraged to think about how they could improve their model and encourage them to overcome difficulties to develop resilience. In addition to the continuous provision that is always available for the children, they will be able to become minibeast explorers. Colour mixing will be available for the children to mix colours to match insects found. Furthermore, observational drawings/ paintings of minibeast will be encouraged in a range of media/mixed media.</p>	<p>Chat to your child about things they make at home. It is best to start by saying, "Tell me about your..." This is better than saying, "What is it?"</p>

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## Summer 1 Overview



	We will explore Matisse's work on The Snail Learning songs and rhymes about minibeasts- There's a worm at the bottom of my garden, Herman the Worm, The Ants go Marching, Little Arabella Miller, Incy Wincy Spider, There's a Spider on my Knee, Little Miss Muffet	
<b>Key Vocab</b>	metamorphosis, insect, change, chrysalis, change, days of the week, greedy, warm, shriek, curl, coil, baggy, joke, croak, bigger, smaller, insect, head, thorax, abdomen, antennae, minibeast, habitat, protect, pupa, life cycle	