

Foundation Stage Summer Term Overview

The themes for this term will be:

The Spring Rabbit, Handa's Surprise, Minibeasts.



Characteristics of Learning: how your child learns

The children will be learning through finding out and exploring, playing with what they know and being willing to have a go. They will also be encouraged to get involved and concentrate on activities through perseverance and enjoy meeting their own challenges whilst developing their own ideas. Children will develop their critical thinking through making links, predictions and problem solving in their play.

Communication, Language and Literacy

In C&L we shall be using the story, Handa's Surprise as stimulus for children to act out what happens in the text. Using the same story we will learn new vocabulary such as animal names and the names of some interesting fruits. We will be learning about healthy living and discussing how we can achieve this. We will study a selection of stories about minibeasts. We will learn to make up our own stories based around the topic of minibeasts and using props to stimulate our imagination. The children will have the opportunity to experience a wide range of stories, rhymes and songs and join in with their favourites. We will also look at information books and Reception will write their own. Reception children will also consolidate their reading and writing skills, increasing the amount of tricky words they can read and write. We will be introducing Phase 4 sounds and they will continue to use their phonic knowledge to write sentences that can be read by others.

Mathematical Development

Using the story of Handa we will be looking at full, empty and half full using food in baskets and also in our water play. We will also be looking at doubling quantities of fruit from the same story. We will also look at halving practically with fruit, sandwiches and shapes. Having learnt about 2d shapes, we will now use these skills to talk about the properties of 3d shapes. We will use legs and wings on minibeasts to solve practical addition and subtraction problems. We will start to look at numbers beyond 20 and look at the composition of numbers. Children will look at time in more detail and use time related vocabulary in relation to their day. Children will be encouraged to explore money and will be able to buy fruit from the market. Children will be exposed to weighing a selection of fruit through the story of Handa's Surprise. They will be learning to classify minibeasts according to certain criteria.

Expressive Arts and Design

Through our topic this term the children will be exposed to a variety of experiences. They will be given the opportunity to learn about African music and chants. They will be able to use natural materials and objects to paint and mark make with such as sticks, grass and leaves. We will make butterfly prints and choose resources to make other minibeasts. Children will learn new techniques such as marbling and using split pins. Songs and rhymes will play a big part of our fun.

Understanding of the World.

The children will learn to comment on, and ask questions about, aspects of their familiar world such as the place where they live, the natural world and our local environment. We will compare our lives with that of Handa's in Africa. We will also compare our houses with African homes. Through our topic of Minibeasts we will have the opportunity to study how a caterpillar changes in to a butterfly by having them in the classroom. The children will go on a minibeast hunt and talk about similarities and differences between different bugs and small creatures they find. We will also look at the changes of seasons as we move into Summer.

Physical Development

Within PD we will be making the most of the nice weather by making and then negotiating a variety of outdoor obstacle courses. We will be fruit tasting and looking closely at what makes a healthy meal. We shall also grow some healthy foods ourselves and harvest our potatoes. Through our theme Minibeasts, we will experiment with different movements such as wiggling like a worm, fluttering like a butterfly. We will use tools to make minibeast patterns like spots, spirals and stripes.

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

This term we will continue to support children in their play encouraging them to take turns with each other when playing games. Children will be encouraged to talk about their own abilities and needs and to try new experiences and activities in order to enable them to grow in confidence and self esteem. Using the story, 'The bad tempered Ladybird' we will discuss a variety of emotions, asking what makes us feel like this and how we can deal with these feelings.