

ALL CREATURES GREAT AND SMALL



THE BIG IDEA

In this topic we will be learning about plants and animals. Flowers and insects need each other. Without insects there would be no flowers. And without flowers insects would go hungry. What do living things such as animals and plants need in order to survive and grow? What is the difference between a living thing and something that has never been alive? We will explore the answers to these questions through this topic.

OUTDOOR LEARNING



We hope to have some more spring fairies visiting our secret garden

this term.

We will begin to develop our wildlife garden where we hope to attract a range of minibeasts. We will develop habitats outside where wildlife may choose to live and will monitor these to see if anything has moved in.

The topic this term is science based and outdoor learning will provide good opportunities to carry out scientific enquiries into the life processes of plants and animals.

We will be recording the weather regularly and talking about seasonal changes.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

In RE we will be learning about Easter with a focus on Palm Sunday. We will also find out about stories Jesus told, including The Sower and The Last Son.

EARLY YEARS

The children in Barn Owls will take part in topic related activities. They will also have lots of opportunities to initiate their own learning, selecting from the class resources and will be encouraged to 'plan, do and review' their activities.

In History we will:

- Find out about the life of a significant historical character: Beatrix Potter. We will read some of her books and discuss the way she wrote about and painted animals. This will link with the author study we will carry out on Emily Gravett in English.

In Geography we will:

- Find out about locations in Europe and in other continents and compare them with our locality. This will continue the theme begun last term exploring animal habitats around the world.
- We hope to link up with a school in Denmark to enable us to find out similarities and differences between their school and its locality and ours.

In Computing we will:

- Use computers to publish our stories.
- Find out about how illustrators use technology in their work.
- Collect and present data in simple pictograms and graphs.

In Art we will:

- Develop our drawing skills, exploring lines and marks, tones, shapes and texture.
- Combine drawing and painting to create illustrations in the style of Emily Gravett.

In P.E we will be focusing on Gymnastics and Games.

In gymnastics we will follow the Val Sabin Schemes of Work. This time the focus is 'Rocking and Rolling'.

The children will:

PERSONAL SOCIAL HEALTH & ECONOMIC EDUCATION

In PSHEe we will follow the East Sussex Scheme of Work for Year 1. This term we will be focussing on:

- Good to be me.
- Similarities and differences.
- Diversity week.

TRIPS AND EVENTS

- Learning to Learn day.
- A trip to the seaside.

CURRICULUM RISK ASSESSMENTS

- Using garden tools
- Handling animals

- Learn which parts of the body can be used for spinning and rocking.
- Know and understand the safety implications involved in rolling.
- Link combinations of movements and shapes.
- Apply movements on the apparatus.

In Games the children will be learning to:

- Move with control.
- Send equipment with control.
- Receive equipment with control.

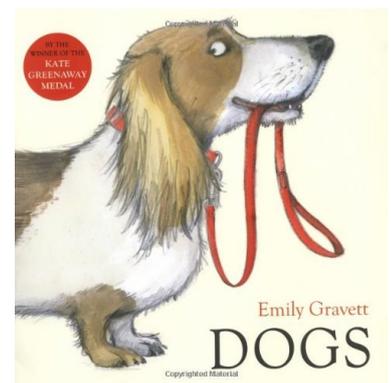
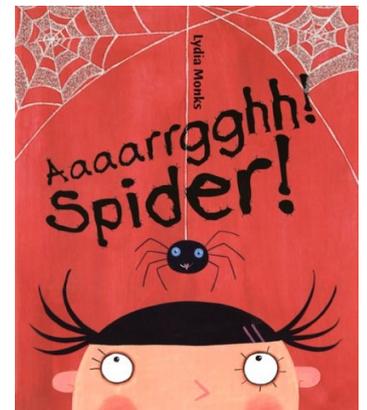
Some of the activities will be based on the Top Play cards.

Music will be taught by a music specialist and will be based on the Music Express units. This term there will be a focus on pitch:

- Developing pitch.
- Awareness of pitch in voices.
- Tuned and untuned instruments.

ENGLISH:

- In Literacy planning will be supported by the ideas produced in 'Book Power', the text type papers and the progression papers.
- We will read the text Aaaarrgghh Spider! By Lydia Monks. We will get to know the text well through retelling the story, drama and art activities. We will find out about the structure of the story before writing our own minibeast stories.
- We will be studying two authors this term, Emily Gravett and Beatrix Potter. Both of these authors have written many books about animals which they have illustrated themselves. We will discuss common themes in their books and how they use illustration to enhance the stories. This should provide good ideas for ways to structure a story and use interesting vocabulary when we write our own stories.
- In phonics the Barn Owls will revise digraphs (where two letters make one sound) e.g. ar and trigraphs (three letters making one sound) e.g. igh. They will learn to blend sounds to read words and practise recognising some words instantly e.g. *what*. Kestrels and Peregrines will continue to learn how different letters can represent the same sound (e.g. ai, ay and a-e) and some children will continue to learn how words change when you add prefixes and suffixes.



MATHS:

- The Barn Owls will continue to learn to recognise the numbers to 20. They will practise adding and subtracting by counting on and counting back. They will also be learning to recognise, create and describe patterns.
- Kestrels will continue to practise recognising and using numbers to 100 and to understand the place value of the digits in a two-digit number. They will learn to recognise odd and even numbers.
- The Peregrines will practise finding the difference between two numbers, using addition to check subtraction and counting in 3s.
- We will also focus on fractions this term, including finding one half and one quarter of a shape.
- Once a week the children will be focussing on applying their mathematical learning to solve problems.

SCIENCE:

Working scientifically

- The children will be encouraged to ask and find the answers to scientific questions. They will gather data, carry out simple tests, record data and talk about what they have found out.
- There will be a particular focus on the area 'observing over time' which will involve observing plants and animals as they change and grow.

Scientific knowledge

- The children will observe the growth of flowers and vegetables that they have planted.
- We will learn the names of some common flowers and trees and use appropriate vocabulary to describe plant structures.
- We will compare and contrast familiar plants.
- We will find out about minibeasts living in micro-habitats.
- We will explore how living things depend on each other, for example, plants serving as a source of food and shelter for animals.

CLASS ROUTINES:

HOMEWORK:

- The children will have weekly homework tasks linked to learning in class. The homework will be sent home on Friday and is due back in school on Wednesday.
- Children are expected to be heard read at least three times a week. Please make sure that you record each time your child reads or is heard read in their homework diary. The children can then collect stickers towards their reading certificate.
- For some children spellings are sent home every two to three weeks for the children to practise and there will be a test the subsequent week. On other occasions the children will be given a phonic activity, or spelling investigation where they can explore a spelling pattern.

P.E. LESSONS:

- The children need to have their P.E. kit in school each day and it should be taken home each Friday so that it is kept clean for lessons.
- Jewellery must be removed so if your child has their ears pierced they will need a small pot in their bag to put their earrings in to keep them safe.
- Long hair should be tied back for school, but it must be tied back for P.E. lessons so a spare hair band is a good idea.

COMMUNICATION:

- Please encourage your children to speak to me if they should have any concerns, and of course I will always be available at the end of school if you wish to speak to me directly.
- I will continue sending home 'ASK me about ...' cards so that you are able to talk about the children's learning at home. Please look out for these.
- We would love to hear of our Barn Owls' achievements at home, so please do fill in WOW slips which we can add into their learning journeys.

