

Why do Ladybirds have Spots?

Summer Term 2

Reception



During this term we will enjoy hunting for minibeasts and finding out about their habitats.

We will have an exciting visit from a minibeast expert!

TOPIC INFORMATION

Explore ways of travelling by making pathways

- follow skipping ropes to make pathways
- travel in straight pathways to 3 places on different body parts
- run making curved patterns
- travel in curved then straight paths
- travel on apparatus in curved/straight paths
- travel backwards and sideways in curves and straight lines

Create dances to contrast Minibeast movements

- e.g. scurrying ants, buzzing bees, slow snails,
- contrast speeds slow and fast
 - contrast flow (smoothness of movement)
 - explore directions as various minibeasts
 - follow different pathways as minibeasts
 - explore body shape as different minibeasts

Make models of minibeasts using recycled materials

- Make pipe cleaner spiders to sit in webs
- Sew into polystyrene plates to make spider webs
- Make clay models of snails
- Make observation drawings of minibeasts

PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT

Solve simple practical problems e.g. arrange 5 snails on 2 leaves, make equal number of legs on each side of minibeast

- Collect information in a survey about favourite minibeasts and count responses – make own tallies
- Sort sets of minibeasts into wings, no wings, fast, slow, patterned, plain, number of legs
- Describe minibeasts using comparative language 'bigger', 'smaller', 'more', 'less'
- Ask and answer questions using 'more' and 'less'
- Play minibeast games eg beetle and ladybird dominoes counting to 12.
- Measure length of different minibeasts
- Explore symmetry using mirrors
- Explore minibeast patterns
- Use positional language in snail trail book

MATHEMATICS

Texts:

- “Hungry Caterpillar”
- “The Very Busy Spider”
- “The Bad Tempered Ladybird”
- “Snail Trail”
- “Minibeast Encyclopaedia”
- “I Spy in the Garden”

Change role play into minibeast world

Listen to stories on tape-recorder

Retell stories with story props/small world toys/puppets

Make a zig-zag book of a snail’s trail using positional language

Make a poster about minibeast rules

Sequence own Hungry caterpillar book

Make own information book about a minibeast

Write a letter to the bad tempered ladybird

Change ending and character in Little Miss Muffet to compose own rhyme

Form letters in name correctly using pens, paints, sand, by labelling models and signing up on class lists

COMMUNICATION, LANGUAGE AND LITERACY

Circle time – contribute to discussions about looking after minibeasts both in the local environment and in the classroom

Circle time to discuss consequences of not looking after minibeasts properly

Make posters displaying rules for treating minibeasts with care

Circle time to discuss fear of certain minibeasts

Look at books and videos about minibeasts

Empathise with the friendly ladybird in “The bad tempered ladybird”

Talk about the behaviour of the bad tempered lady and discuss potential consequences.

Recount personal account of being afraid of a minibeast or counteracting fear

PERSONAL, SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT/ SMSC

Find out about life cycles, minibeasts habitats, food that they eat and special features by looking at books and videos

Closely observe minibeasts in the outside environment and in the classroom

Draw pictures of minibeasts using magnifying glasses to help pick out main features – colour, patterns, size, legs, wings, segments, antennae

List similarities and differences of various minibeasts

Make information book about a minibeast

Go on a minibeasts trail in the local environment

Sort minibeasts e.g. wings, no wings, fast and slow

Observe life cycle of caterpillar - butterfly

Listen to stories on the classroom tape recorder

Make a graph of popular minibeasts on the class computer

Draw caterpillars, worms, snails, bees etc on colour magic

Use internet to find out more about minibeasts

Make construction models of minibeasts using interstar, construction straws, etc

UNDERSTANDING THE WORLD

Observation drawings minibeasts using chalks/charcoal

Make clay models of snails

Paint flowers to go in class role play area

Make paper collage ladybirds

Paint a small world play mat for minibeasts

Sew a spiders web onto polystyrene plates

Make model minibeasts using recycled materials

Paint/print symmetrical butterflies

Look at Matisse’s ‘Snail’ and make paper collages based on his work.

Role play scenes in the minibeast world

Small world play with plastic minibeasts

Sing songs relating to minibeasts

Make music for minibeast dances e.g. scurrying ants, buzzing bees, slow snails,

Create dances to contrast minibeast movements

EXPRESSIVE ARTS AND DESIGN