

## Our Gardens ~ What creatures and plants can you find in the garden? How do they grow?

We will be learning about the different creatures and plants that can be found in our gardens. We will be talking about what they look like, their different parts as well as observing and describing them.

We will be observing the life-cycles of a plant, frog and butterfly.

### Key Vocabulary

- Plants - seed, shoot, stem, flower, petal, leaf, roots
- Germinate- when a seed begins to grow
- Nectar - sweet liquid bees and other creatures drink from flowers
- Pollen - a powder that sticks to the bees when they are in flowers
- Invertebrate - an animal without a backbone e.g. insects
- Insect - a small invertebrate that has 6 legs
- Legs, Head, Body, Wings
- Antenna- a long thin body part on an invertebrate used to feel and sense things
- Frog life cycle- frogspawn, tadpole, froglet, frog
- Butterfly life cycle- egg, chrysalis, caterpillar

### **Books we will be reading**



## Communication and Language, and Literacy

In our daily Read Write Inc sessions the children will practise reading and writing simple sentences, focussing on using finger spaces between words.

We will explore the story *Jack and the Beanstalk*, alongside a range of books about minibeasts and growing. The children will take part in discussions about these stories to develop their understanding. We will also introduce and revisit key vocabulary, encouraging the children to use new words in their speaking and early writing.

## Mathematics

We will continue to develop addition skills and explore numbers to 10, with a focus on number bonds to 5. We will introduce subtraction using practical resources and learn simple subtraction facts within 5. The children will also explore doubling, sharing, and begin to understand odd and even numbers. We will investigate 2D and 3D shapes, learning about their properties through activities such as building, model making, and creating pictures.

## Physical Development

In our weekly P.E. sessions with Mrs Henshaw, we will practise and develop our ball skills. We will also continue to strengthen our fine motor skills, focussing on correct pencil grip and practising accurate letter formation using *Read Write Inc.* rhymes, particularly when writing our names.

## Personal, Social and Emotional

We will focus on developing a growth mindset. We will share stories such as *The Dot* and *Rosie Revere, Engineer*, exploring how the characters show determination and resilience as they work towards their goals. We will encourage the children to keep trying when they find something challenging, helping them to understand the importance of perseverance and not giving up.

## Forest School

Both Holly and Ivy classes will be taking part in Forest School sessions during the summer term. Holly class will begin first, and you will have received a letter with further details. Ivy class will start their sessions in the following half term.

## Enrichment Activities

We will be ticking off the following learning from our reception bucket list this half term!

- ✓ Watching the lifecycle of a frog and butterfly.

## Understanding of the World

We will explore creatures that live in our gardens, as well as plants and how they grow. The children will learn about different invertebrates, animals, and their habitats. We will learn about the life cycle of a frog and observe frogspawn as it develops into froglets and then frogs. The children will plant tomatoes, strawberries, and beans, and observe how they grow over time. We will also carry out simple science experiments, including finding the best material for a parachute for Jack to safely get down the beanstalk, and using food colouring to change the colour of flower petals.

## Suggestions for Parental Support/ Information

Please practise with your child their reading and log this on to 'Boom Reader'. You may also want to help your child practise writing their name with correct lowercase letter formation with a capital letter at the start. Use the letter formation rhymes provided previously. Please ask if you need another copy 😊

## Expressive Arts and Design

This half term, we will explore using watercolours and develop our skills in drawing more detailed pictures of people. The children will practise 3D modelling by creating a minibeast using recycled materials, as well as completing observational drawings of plants and invertebrates. In our weekly music sessions, we will explore sounds and rhythms from around the world and through traditional tales. The children will listen to and sing songs from different countries, move to a range of steady beats, and use percussion instruments to create music inspired by stories and cultures from across the globe.