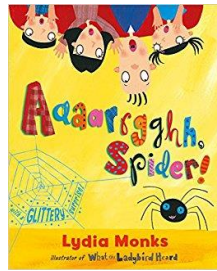


Reception Newsletter - Week beginning 12th May 2025

Term 5 topic - Minibeasts

What is happening in our garden?

Our story of the week- "Aaaarrggh, Spider" by Lydia Monks



Personal, Social and Emotional Development – We know our school rules really well and keep remembering that we need to be 'ready, respectful and safe at school'. We have also been working together, sharing resources to ensure we have fun, we learn and we stay safe. Being with our friends at school has made us happy this week. We always try hard to use our learning muscles. We are Andy Ants when we work as a team to tidy our classrooms. We are keen to 'have a go' like 'Mo the Chetah', we don't give up like 'Raj and Robot' and we continue to be great 'Andy Ants', sharing our minibeast discoveries with our friends. This week we introduced another learning muscle – being imaginative like 'Daisy Dinosaur'. Our children are always telling stories, having fun in the role play area and are extremely creative at the Art and Junk Modelling tables. We always love seeing their imagination and their creative flourish whilst in Reception and cannot wait to see what they create next!

Communication and Language - We have had lots of discussions about spiders and chatted to each other about what we've found out! We have learnt lots of new facts about spiders and lots of new words. Our favourite fact this week relates to what happens if a spider loses a leg! Why not ask your child, or even what they know about a spinneret.

Physical Development - We enjoy exploring during our outside playtimes each day. We have used a variety of sports equipment on the large playground, played in the sand, made obstacle courses and explored a variety of construction materials. During our indoor session this week, we were lucky to join in with the Indian Dance Workshop. We loved listening to the music and learning some new dance moves. We all had a go and did really well performing our routine at the end. We continued to develop our gymnastics skills, by practicing known and new rolls, as we retold the story of Goldilocks and the Three Bears. Why not ask us to show you a 'log roll' or a 'barrel roll'? We also continue to develop our Fine Motor Skills through handwriting, threading, cutting and various building and constructing toys.

Literacy - We impressed our teachers with our weekend writing this week, as we used our phonic knowledge to help us listen for the sounds we could hear, pinch them onto our fingers and write each word to make a sentence. We are working towards becoming more independent when we are writing. We continue to look at a variety of non-fiction books about spiders and other minibeasts and have read lots of story books. We are also doing lots of reading in our phonics groups.

Mathematics - We have continued to practise counting in 1s, 2s, 5s, and 10s; recognising our numbers to 20 and beyond; doubling and halving; forming our numbers correctly;

counting up to 20 and back down again; saying what is one more and one less than a given number. This week we have revisited our previous learning about 2D and 3D shapes, and how we can manipulate shapes by turning them and flipping them. We all had a go at using shapes to create tangrams too.

Understanding the World - Wow! We have had an exciting week in class. We are looking every day at our caterpillars and wondering when they will start the process to become beautiful butterflies! We can't believe how much our caterpillars have grown already, in just a week! We have enjoyed learning lots of different facts about Spiders and have been watching out to see if we can spot any in school or on the playground. We are still enjoying using lots of different technology in our classrooms, in particular the smart board where we have drawn spiders and used software to explore painting them with different textures and colours.

Expressive Arts and Design - We have enjoyed exploring paint to make handprint spiders with lots of eyes, wax resist watercolour webs and creating our own drawings and illustrations of Incey Wincey Spider. We still love our role play areas and enjoy pretending to be different characters!

Supporting learning at home

- On a sunny day note down the different minibeasts you see. How many of each kind did you spot?
- See if you can double and halve using objects at home.
- Practise writing your numbers to 20. Make sure you get them round the right way.
- Impress your grown-ups with all the digraphs you can remember and write.

Notes for next week 19/05/2025

- Please remember book bags, water bottles, hats and a coat every day.
- Please remember to bring in your PE kits, with all items named, ready for more gymnastics next week.
- On sunny days, please ensure your child comes to school with sun cream already applied, and we will ensure the children reapply their suncream throughout the day. Please make sure that your child's bottle of suncream is labelled.

Enjoy the weekend!