

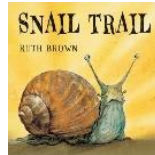


## Reception Newsletter - Week beginning: 28.04.25

We are enjoying our Term 5 topic - Minibeasts and Growing

“What is happening in our garden?”

Our story of the week - ‘Snail Trail’ by Ruth Brown



**Personal, Social and Emotional Development-** We always remember our Three School Rules, 'Be ready, Safe and Respectful', along with our Learning Muscles, as they both help to make our school a happy and safe place to be! We also know it is so important to work together as a team, using our kind words and hands at all times. In our Jigsaw session this week we have been thinking about what makes a good friend. We have talked about feeling lonely, how a good friend can help when we are sad, and what we look for in a good friend. 'Integrity' is our school value this term and we know that it means always making the right choices even when no-one is watching.

**Communication and Language-** We are continuing to enjoy learning and chatting about minibeasts this week. We have learnt all about slugs and snails and loved using the new words we heard to describe them, such as 'foot', 'spiral' and 'tentacles'. We have enjoyed sharing stories and poems about minibeasts and listening out for rhyming words. We learnt lots of interesting facts and words during our visit from Zoolab and using some amazing describing words in our writing this week.

**Physical Development-** We love being active at outside time. We have been using lots of different sports equipment, enjoying lots of water play and have enjoyed using the roller boards and cars this week. In PE this week, we continue to enjoy our Unit on Gymnastics and practised balancing on bars and tables. We continue to develop our fine motor skills though play with playdough, drawing spirals in glittery flour and paint, using tweezers, handwriting, cutting and using various building and constructing toys. We have been working really hard on forming our letters correctly.

**Literacy-** We have done lots of independent writing in our role-play areas and on clipboards and white boards around our classrooms. In our classrooms we are also continuing to look at a variety of non-fiction books about minibeasts and have read lots of story books. We continue to enjoy our reading lessons. Keep up with reading every night at home. Please make a note in the red reading diary when you have read. Our writing this week was about the minibeasts we met during the Zoolab visit, have a look at us holding and touching the animals on the school website.

**Mathematics-** We have continued to build our knowledge of number through a variety of activities in our continuous provision. In our maths sessions we have been counting up to thirty in 1s and also counting in 2s, and 10s. We have been exploring and making numbers to 20 using cubes. We know that 12 is one ten and 2 ones. We have been



working on 14 to 20 this week. We have also sequenced numbers to 20 and worked out which number was missing.



**Understanding the World-** We thought about where snails like to live and are busy looking for them in our garden. We are looking closely at them and noticing how they move, eat, see and feel. We have also started to think about where we could look for minibeasts outside! We know minibeasts like dark, damp places so we know we can lift up wood, stones and bricks in our gardens to explore what is living underneath. We are spotting many changes in the world around us. We are enjoying using the interactive whiteboard on various programmes.



**Expressive Arts and Design-** This week we have really enjoyed exploring spirals in different ways. We have created spirals using paint, chalks, our fingers in flour and glitter and even playdough. We made our own snails by printing on card and then cutting along the spiral. We have looked at the artist Henri Matisse this week. We enjoyed looking at and chatting about his pictures, particularly his 'Snail' collage. We had a go at making our own 'Snail' art by tearing and cutting paper to make different square shapes and sticking them into a spiral shape. The children have enjoyed spending time in the Minibeast Research Lab using our imagination and lots of language being scientists. We have been learning a song about minibeasts in class ... ask us to sing it to you.



### **Supporting learning at home**

- Search the garden and write a list of minibeasts you find!
- Practise writing numbers to twenty – Can you say one more / less than any of these numbers?
- Can you build numbers to 20 using Lego? How many different ways can you make each number?
- Please make sure your child always has a coat in school – you never know when the weather might change!
- On very hot days please make sure your child has had sun screen applied and has a sun hat.



#### **Reading Tip**

Look closely at the pictures in your books before you start reading.  
What is happening? What can you see? Where does the story take place?  
Who are the characters? What do you think is going to happen next?

**Have a great Bank Holiday Weekend. See you on Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> May.**

