Spring 2

Minibeasts



Literacy

This half term, we have revisited Phase 3 sounds (orange sound mat) and phase 3 tricky words.

We have been working hard to read and write short sentences independently. We encourage children to spell independently using their current phonic knowledge (e.g side-> sighd). An updated phonics assessment has been placed in bookbags. Next term we will finish revisiting phase 3 before moving onto phase 4.

Supporting at home:

- Revisit taught sounds and tricky words through games e.g treasure hunts
- Encourage writing for pleasure e.g. a sunflower diary
- Read reading books 3 x per week
- Share stories to develop reading for pleasure

Personal, Social and Emotional Development:

This half term we have really been unpicking our CARE values (compassion, ambition, resilience and equality) and applying these in real situations within the classroom.

Supporting at home:

- Talk about our CARE values at home- can children recognise when they have been compassionate or ambitious?
- Encourage independence at **every** opportunity
- Play games that practise turn taking e.g snakes and ladders, snap.

Expressive Art and Design:

This half term we have been having been really enjoying junk modelling in the creative area. We have been looking at the different ways that we can join our materials together including the flange joint and a brace. We have also explored a range of modelling techniques when using clay.

Supporting at home:

- Encourage children to design before creating their idea thinking carefully about the features they need.
- Practise different modelling techniques using clay or playdough.

Communication and Language

This half term we have been building on our vocabulary learning some really interesting words and applying these in context. We are continuing to build on our listening skills and responding to others with interesting questions during tapestry time.

Supporting at home:

- Give simple two or three step instructions
- Use exciting vocabulary and explain its meaning in context.
- Upload photos to Tapestry for discussions in Summer term.

Maths

This half term, we have been exploring the composition of numbers to 20 using our knowledge of '10 and a bit'. We have ordered to 20 using our knowledge of one more and one less. We have been looking at addition and subtraction within 10 using 'first, then and now'. We have also been looking closely at 3D shapes- naming and exploring their properties.

Supporting at home:

- Practise ordering and naming numerals to 20 (11, 12, 13 and 15 are the tricky ones!)
- Name 3D shapes and their properties (faces, edges, vertices, flat, curved)
- Practise simple addition and subtraction within 10 using objects to support.

Physical Development:

This half term we have been further developing our skills. In P.E we have been working on the skills needs to throw and catch successfully.

Supporting at home:

- Encourage lots of gross motor play- swinging, biking, climbing, throwing, catching etc.
- Encourage fine motor skills- playdough, threading, buttons etc.
- Encourage a comfortable tripod grip when holding a pencil and correct scissor grip.
- Practice letter formation regularly

Understanding the World:

This half term, we have been learning all about minibeasts! We have explored their different habitats and examined them closely to see what special features they have. We have been looking at the tadpole, caterpillar and sunflower life cycles in more detail. We are excited to explore the duck life cycle when we return!

Supporting at home:

- Support your child to tend to their sunflower- what does it need to grow?
- Explore outdoors! What minibeasts can you spot?
- Can you spot any signs of Spring?
- Can you remember the stages of the tadpole, caterpillar or sunflower life cycle?