

## Foundation Stage Topic Web Newsletter

Class/Year: \_\_\_ Reception \_\_\_\_\_

Term: \_\_\_ Summer 1 \_\_\_\_\_

### **Introduction to topic/theme:**

This half term we will be looking at the topics 'Animal Crackers' and 'Ticket to Ride'. Animal Crackers will help us to learn all about different minibeasts, their habitats and how to care for living things. Through the next topic, we will learn about the North pole and how this differs from where we live.

### **Personal, Social and Emotional Development**

- Continue reflection time at the end of each school day and take some time to discuss what the children have learnt and what they have enjoyed learning about.
- Begin to understand how to care for living things and our environment.
- Work on being able to negotiate and problem solve as we learn and play.

### **Physical Development**

- Develop and refine a range of ball skills including: throwing, catching, kicking, passing, batting and aiming.
- Move energetically, demonstrating balance and coordination by tackling obstacle courses.
- Use a range of small tools and begin to show accuracy when drawing and writing.
- Continue to practise letter formation as we engage with handwriting sessions.

### **Expressive Arts and Design**

- Making Ramadhan and Eid-ul-Fitr cards
- Role-play in our florists
- Use natural materials to create a home for minibeasts
- Look at how to create our own symmetrical patterns on butterflies/ladybirds and design our own
- Study artists such as Wasilly Kadinsky & Lucy Arnold
- Developing ways of moving to music, e.g. adapting how we move to various rhythms and choosing different ways of doing this as we learn more about minibeasts – scuttling, slithering, crawling etc



### **Communication, Language & Literacy**

This half term we will be looking at the stories *Mad About Minibeasts* by Giles Andreae and David Wojtowycz and *The Great Explorer* by Chris Judge. We will be looking at and labelling different minibeasts and will also have a go at writing facts about our favourites. We will also create a fact file on the North Pole and various arctic animals.



### **Mathematics**

- Building and identifying numbers to 20
- Identifying counting patterns beyond 10
- Exploring shapes as we rotate them
- Begin to use positional language to describe where the shapes are in relation to one another.
- Begin to understand that shapes can be combined and separated.
- Learn how to add more and take away

### **Understanding the World**

Children will be learning about different minibeasts and the environment and how we look after and care for them. We will study the life cycles and habitats of different minibeasts, touching upon food chains. In addition, children will become explorers as they work to find out about the North Pole and think about what equipment they would need to take when embarking on an adventure.

### **Ideas to try at home**

- Allow children to use the internet to learn more about a particular minibeast.
- Take a walk around a garden, park or outside area. What minibeasts can you find? Take pictures of any minibeast you find and then see if you can identify what it is.
- Create a tent/camping site using material and items from around your home. Act out what you would do if you were stranded in the North Pole.