

Communication and Language:Listening, attention and understanding

The children will be developing their listening skills as they learn lots of new facts and will be developing their questioning skills. We will be using a range of online videos and information to find out about Minibeasts and will learn lots of new Makaton signs to support this too.

Speaking

As they talk to others around them, they will be encouraged to explain their ideas and extend their sentences with added detail.

Mathematics:

The children will continue to consolidate their understanding of simple and complex patterns.

The children will be using their addition and subtraction skills by using a story structure of first, then and now to solve simple number problems.

We will be counting and comparing numbers up to 20 and revising one more and one less.

The children will learn what doubling means and apply double fact to problems up to double 5.

Expressive Arts and Design:Creating with materials

The children will be using a range of skills and materials to design and make Minibeasts and drawing observational sketches of animals.

Being imaginative and expressive The role-play area will be enhanced to complement our investigation area to help the children to use the vocabulary associated with the topic. In music we will listen to and sing songs about nature, noticing and sharing sound patterns.

Understanding the World:People Culture and communities

The children will be thinking about our school, community and personal values. We will be asking why they are important and where do our values come from. The children will reflect upon a range of different world religions and searching for the core values within each one.

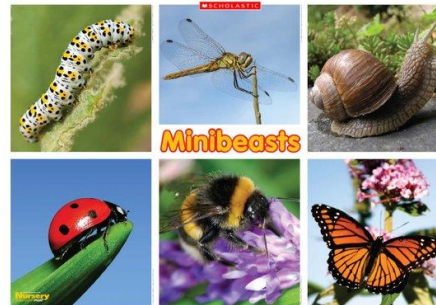
Literacy:Writing

We will continue to encourage children to use the letter sounds and graphemes they have learnt to write with purpose in Drawing Club and whilst accessing the classroom provision. The children have now learnt how to correctly form all the letters of the alphabet and we will reinforce this learning in our handwriting lessons.

There will be a range of writing opportunities to engage the children across the topic including writing fact files about their favourite Minibeast's and opportunities to design and label habitats too.

Reception Summer 1 2026

Marvellous Minibeasts

**Understanding the World:**The Natural World

The children will learn all about different Minibeasts and their habitats and will consolidate this learning with a trip to Ryton Pools. We will be planting seeds in the outside classroom and will be learning about what they need to grow.

We will also be learning about the famous Scientist David Attenborough and will be taking inspiration from his life as a naturalist.

We are also hoping to observe caterpillars turning into butterflies and develop a wormery!

Literacy:Comprehension

We will be reading a range of stories and non-fiction texts about Minibeasts. The children will be encouraged to use books to find out facts about animals and share them with others. We will also use the internet and other sources to find out information.

Children will also develop their comprehension skills during their guided reading sessions in school.

Literacy:Word reading

All of the children will continue to practise Level 2 and 3 sounds whilst learning Level 4 blends.

They will read twice a week in a guided group to develop fluency and comprehension skills.

Please continue to practice reading tricky words from phase 2, 3 and 4 with your child as much as possible.

Please remember that we are now changing your child's home reading book weekly after our guided reading sessions.

Physical Development:Fine motor skills

The children will continue to practice forming their lower- and upper-case letters correctly using a tripod pencil grip.

Gross motor skills

In the outdoor classroom, children will have access the climbing frame, digging, biking, scooting and a range of equipment to help develop their gross motor skills. In PE we will be focusing on team sports in readiness for Sport's Day !

PSED:

Self-Regulation We will continue to use the Thrive approach to think about our feelings, emotions and understanding of others.

Managing Self

We will be encouraging the children to talk about themselves positively thinking about their abilities.

Building relationships

Through the Thrive approach we will encourage the children to be sensitive to other people's needs.