

**Overview:** This half term we will be continuing to learn about life cycles of different animals and plants. The children will learn the different stages of the life cycle through the stories of 'The Very Hungry Caterpillar', 'The Teeny Weeny Tadpole' and 'The Tiny Seed.' We are looking forward to the arrival of caterpillars in the classrooms to observe any changes. During this half term the children will visit the school pond to see if they can find any sign of new life in a different habitat. We will also be thinking about 'People who help us' and currently we have a dentist and police officer booked to come and talk to the children. We're hoping there may be others too!

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

We will be :

- continuing to develop our understanding of being at our brain best and how we can begin to manage this ourselves.
- learning to give focussed attention to what others say in order to respond appropriately and gain new knowledge.
- having a go at setting and working towards simple goals.
- learning to wait for what we want and control immediate impulses.

### **Communication and Language**

The children will :

- explore a range of fiction, non fiction and poems related to butterflies, caterpillars, frogs, tadpoles and plants.
- be introduced to new vocabulary e.g. caterpillar, butterfly, life cycle, chrysalis, frog and tadpole during Drawing Club.
- have the opportunity to retell the stories using props, puppets and small world resources.
- continue to enjoy singing a variety of songs and rhymes and learn some new ones based on our topic.
- compose appropriate questions for our visitors.

### **Physical Development**

We will be:

- continuing to explore a variety of malleable materials by patting, poking, squeezing, pinching and twisting them.
- continuing to form the graphemes that correspond to the phonemes we have been learning.
- working with Coach Ashley from R and R Sports who will continue teaching multi skills activities and developing ball skills.
- learning how to use different movement to express feeling and use their bodies to create movement in response to music and other stimuli.
- they will learn how to change movements with control including direction.

### **Phonics and Literacy**

We will be reviewing the phase 3 digraphs and trigraphs this half term.

Week 1 – CVCC words such as hand, wind, tent, gift

Week 2 – CCVC words eg. Chimp chest, swim

Week 3 – CCVCC words eg. spend, trust, twist

Week 4 -Longer words eg. Shampoo, children, freshness

Week 5 - words that contain suffixes eg. -ing, -ed as a /t/, ed as /id/, ed as /ed/, -est

Our focus will be to recognise the sounds, identify the sounds in words and use these sounds to read words. The children will be encouraged to recognise words with digraphs and trigraphs in them when reading sentences. The children will be reviewing all the words taught so far, learning to read these by sight and how to spell these words. We will be applying all of our phonic and tricky word knowledge to reading and writing simple sentences.

### Understanding of the World

We will be:

- learning about life cycles of a butterfly and a frog, focusing on the changes that these animals go through.
- continuing to learn about the life cycle of a plant and observing the changes that occur as they grow.
- learning about 'People who help Us' and we'll be welcoming a dentist, a police officer, a nurse to talk to the children about their job.

### Maths

We will be:

- consolidating key skills of subitising (instantly recognising small quantities), counting, sorting, matching, comparing and ordering numbers to 10.
- learning to build and identify numbers to 20 using a range of resources e.g. tens frames, cubes, bead strings and numicon.
- learn that larger numbers are composed of full 10s and part of the next 10.
- learning to identify patterns within numbers when counting beyond 20.
- recapping their knowledge of a variety of shapes.
- learning to use positional vocabulary to describe where shapes are in relation to one another.
- learning about adding and taking away using practical resources to support their understanding.

### Expressive Art and Design

We will be:

- practising the skills of drawing using pencils by making observational drawings of the caterpillars and butterflies.
- learning to match colours and look at a variety of different patterns. During their independent learning time the children will have the opportunity to practise collage techniques and mixing colours.
- learning about the technique of collage. They will learn what a collage is and learn about a range of different techniques that they can use to collage.

### Hiltingbury Heroes: Learner for Life

This half term, children will focus on the skills of Sydney Gorilla.

- He helps us to be an independent researcher.
- Children will learn how to find out information from their peers, books and using the internet safely.





How you can support at home:

Encourage your child to be responsible for their own belongings.

Give your child lots of opportunities to read the tricky words we have taught.

Use the handwriting sheets shared at parent's evening to practise letter formation with your child.

Engage your child with the topic learning at home by visiting the library and looking at books; reading topic related books at home; use the internet to find out information.

Talk to your child about keeping hydrated and staying safe in the sun.

Reminders and Key Dates:

PE days - Tuesday and Thursday

Please ensure everything is named, including sunhats.