



The Winns Reception



Summer 1

This half term the name of our topic is 'Living Things'. We will be exploring the life-cycles of butterflies, frogs and plants. Inspired by David Attenborough's 'Blue and Green Planets', children will be learning about a variety of living things and what they need to survive. Children will learn about how to look after our planet starting in our local area. Children will start to classify some living things by understanding their characteristics and creating simple diagrams. We will be investigating different habitats in various environments.

This half term to help children understand the world we will be visiting Lloyd Park to partake in pond dipping. This will provide an opportunity for us to interact with living things in their natural environment. We are excited to welcome real caterpillars and tadpoles into our classrooms. This will be a great opportunity for us to observe the life-cycle of the animals we have been learning about before our very eyes!



This half term we will develop Maths by exploring symmetrical patterns by making our own symmetrical butterflies. We will continue to build our understanding of the composition of numbers, specifically mental recall of the numbers that can be added together to make five and ten. Children will be exploring and representing patterns within numbers to 10 and will be introduced to the concept of odds and evens.

To develop the children's Physical development the children will be developing their physical skills with our new playground equipment! This will encourage the development of hand-eye coordination, catching and throwing with accuracy and using a racket. It will also assist in understanding good sportsmanship and turn-taking skills. To support the development of fine motor skills will be doing regular handwriting sessions.

To develop our literacy skills this half we will be focusing on the text of 'The Very Hungry Caterpillar' and 'Tadpole's Promise'. We will be using these text to help build our skills of retelling the story and asking comprehension questions about the text. Our topic will support the introduction of a rich vocabulary and terminology around living things. In phonics lessons, we will continue to build our knowledge of 'Special Friends' – this is a term we use to describe two or more letters that make one sound. Children will also be creating non-fiction fact sheets about butterflies and frogs.

In Reception we will continue to focus on the children's Personal Social and Emotional development. We will be introducing a new programme called '1 Decision'. It provides interactive resources to enhance the children's life skills by setting relatable real-life scenarios for us to discuss in a safe environment. We continue to use the 'Zones of Regulations' to support the children to discuss their emotions and be able to utilise coping mechanisms in the moment.

To continue to develop children's communication and language skills we will be introducing a range of scientific vocabulary such as abdomen and thorax as well as geographical vocabulary about life cycles and environments to enable them to write non-fiction texts. Children will offer explanations such as why does a tadpole grow legs or why has a butterfly got wings? Children will learn songs about animal body parts and participate in back and forth exchanges.

As part of our Art & Design learning children will be using a variety of media and materials to create their own mini-beast art. They will share their creations and explain the processes they have used. We will focus on the imaginative side of play and encourage the children to recount, adapt and invent narratives and stories with their friends. Children will also be taking part in a whole school art exhibition!



Important Dates

Starting in week 2 every Thursday we will have *Lottie from MagicBox* visiting us for storytelling.
26.4.22 Visit from *Little Angel Theatre* (Handa's surprise)
3.5.22 Pond Dipping Lloyd Park
5.5.22 (Thursday) Reception is closed for Polling day.

