

Home learning activities 13/07/20: 'Minibeasts'

Monday: *Look at some minibeast pictures together on the internet. Google images page is great for displaying a range of minibeast photos at once! Ask the children to imagine they are tiny minibeasts. What sort of things might frighten them? Talk about the importance of behaving as 'gentle giants' when working with such small animals. Reinforce the safety aspects of handling these small creatures and how to look after them carefully. Can they describe which minibeast is their favourite and why? Encourage your child to draw a picture in their 'Home Learning Book' and copy or trace over a few of your written words to explain this.*

Play the 'I Spy and Count activity' together either by looking at the pictures on the screen or by printing it out. Help your child to identify the same minibeast pictures and complete the challenges by counting all of the ones they spot and writing the number. Can they write any of the numbers that they count independently? Use the number rhymes in the front of the 'Home Learning' booklet to practise writing the numbers with the correct formation. For an extra challenge encourage your child to add 2 sets of minibeast creatures together to find the total!

*Practise sounds we know (m,a,s,d,t,l,n,p,g,o,c,k,u,b,f, e, l, h, r, j,v,y, w) and look at 'z' **zig,zag,zig, down the zip**' and 'x' **Cross down the arm and leg and cross the other way**'. These are our last 2 sounds to learn! Practise formation in the air (look at the letter formation sheet for guidance on starting points in **week 1** resources) Don't forget if you can print off the worksheet for the letter 'z' and 'x' to practice the 'sounds of the week', or practice using different media at home.*

Tuesday: *Look at the 'Minibeasts and their Microhabitats' power point together and discuss the information you find together. What is your child's favourite minibeast? Can they describe it to you before they reveal what it is? Can they remember any of the minibeast facts? Encourage your child to put some of this information, with your help in their 'Home Learning Book'!*

Complete the 'Caterpillar Fingerprint Counting Activity' sheet together either by printing it out or completing it in their 'Home Learning Book'. Look carefully at the numbers together. Can your child identify the number of fingerprints or circles they need to make to complete the caterpillar's body? As a challenge see if your child can add 2 of the number bodies together to find the total!

Practise sound 'z' and 'x' and letter formation with the rhyme. Look at the phonics video again to reinforce the sounds they know. Practise 'How to say the sounds' on the reading page and see if your child recognises and says the sound up to 'z'. It is also great for practising teaching the sounds at home and now your child will have completed all of the letter sounds that we learn in nursery! Well done!

<https://home.oxfordowl.co.uk/reading/learn-to-read-phonics/>

Wednesday: *Talk about the words 'wiggly worm'. They both begin with the same sound. Can your child identify the sound? Offer them some other minibeast word pairs: slithering slugs, snoozing snails, colourful caterpillars, and in each case ask them to identify the initial sound. Invite ideas for word pairs for other minibeasts. Can your child help to write them in their 'Home Learning Book?'*

*Continue practising number writing on the number formation worksheet on the class page on our website under **week 1** resources. Can your child say the number rhyme independently? Can they find the correct amount of objects for each number? (focus on 1 or 2 a week until your child is confident)*

Practise 'z' and 'x' sounds and other sounds your child knows. Can they write them on your back saying the rhyme? Play a game where your child has to select the items beginning with 'z' one day and 'x' the next from a selection of things you can find at home or look for things on the internet (as these sounds are tricky!) and play 'I Spy'!

Thursday: *Look at this 'Minibeast What can You See?' powerpoint together. Encourage your child to describe what they can see through the binoculars. Can they guess what the minibeast is? How do they know? Where do they live? What do they like to eat? Discuss the facts from the habitat powerpoint. Can your child remember any of these?*

Practise this 'Days Of The week' game together. Count the day of the week. How many do we have altogether? The game encourages your child to think about ordering the days into the correct sequence. Have fun!

<http://www.turlediary.com/game/days-of-the-week.html>

Make an obstacle course outside in which your child can move as a minibeast through an imaginary world. Include tunnels (worm holes) to travel through, benches (twigs and branches) to balance along, cones (stones) to move

between and mats (leaves) to rest on. Clap to give a danger signal of an approaching hungry bird, at which all the 'minibeasts' must freeze to avoid being spotted! Don't forget to send me pictures of your creations!

Friday: *Complete the 'Cautious Caterpillar' word search together!*

Encourage your child to look at the words and sound out the initial sound. Talk about the words you find together and discuss the words and their meanings. Can your child remember what a chrysalis is? Can they make up a story using the word search words?

Can your child complete the 'Cautious caterpillar addition to 10 sheet?' Encourage your child to count each set of pictures and discuss the symbols in the number sentence and what they mean. Now count the 2 sets together and challenge your child to find the total! Can they write the correct number independently? Remember the number formation and rhymes are in the front of their 'Home Learning' books! For an extra challenge encourage your child to choose 2 lots of totals. Can they add them together?

Play the 'Phonics Hangman' phase 2 and 3 sound game and practise letter recognition with the sounds your child has been learning. Complete the word by selecting the correct initial sound. When they have finished each sound challenge them to think of a word that begins with that sound! Good luck!

<https://learn.readwithphonics.com/school/play-online?game=hangman&phase=2&sound=%5B%5B%22s%22%5D%2C%5B%5B%22s%22%5D%5D%5D>
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Make some 'made worms'. Choose one or more adjectives to describe the texture of the worm. Give your child a large cut out worm shape and a selection of materials. Each worm can be covered with scraps to illustrate the chosen adjective- a sparkly worm, a smooth worm, a woolly worm, a rough worm etc. Talk about the choices made and the finished textures.

Provide your child with fairly substantial branched twigs and encourage them to wind wool around them making a simple web. Take them outside and encourage them to make collections of natural materials to catch in their webs – leaves, petals, feathers, grass etc.

Make model snails from pasta shells with cut out paper bodies!

Make a model home for a snail. Cut a large body shape from grey paper. Next fold a piece of A3 paper in half and from it cut 2 identical snail shell shapes joined down the fold line. Show your child how to glue the shell to the body so that it will flap open to show the inside of the shell (fold at the top) explain that the shell is the snail's home. What do they think that the snail would like

to have in its home? Invite your child to equip the snail's home either by drawing their own pictures, or by cutting them out of shopping catalogues and gluing them into place.

Send me pictures of your child's artistic creations!

Spend time singing and learning our 'Minibeast' songs together and preform them for all of your family!

PLEASE REMEMBER TAKE YOUR TIME DOING ACTIVITIES AND DO THEM AT YOUR LEISURE OVER THE COMING WEEKS. THESE ARE ACTIVITIES FOR YOU TO COMPLETE IF YOU NEED IDEAS AND RESOURCES AND ALL ARE NOT EXPECTED TO BE FINISHED EVERY WEEK!

THIS WILL BE OUR LAST HOME LEARNING PLANNING FOR THE TERM. HAVE A FANTASTIC SUMMER AND WE WILL SEE YOU IN SEPTEMBER! STAY SAFE AND WELL!