

Reception's Learning for Spring 2

Our focus text is **Yucky Worms** by Vivian French.

You can't be FRIENDS with an earthworm... You can't even tell WHICH end is which! Or CAN you? But there's more to these lowly creatures than meets the eye. With the help of this book, rich in a variety of narrative and non-fiction text, children are invited to find out where worms live, see how they move, and understand why gardeners consider them friends.

Throughout our exploration of this book, we will learn...

We can use some of our waste to make new compost.

Some creatures and insects from our garden also help it to grow and develop.

We will name and identify common minibeasts we find in our environment.

We will observe the lifecycle of a frog and butterfly.

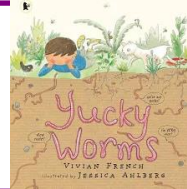
The children will develop their outside area to attract a variety of insects and creatures.

How You Can Support Your Child's Learning

We have introduced reading books in class. The books are carefully matched to the grapheme/phonemes (letters and sounds) the children are secure in recognising. Once your child has read the book in class, it will be sent home for you to listen to your child read it. If children are not secure in recognising grapheme/phonemes, they are given wordless books and take part in targeted sessions to support them.

Please talk to your child about graphemes/phonemes they are learning. Can they find them in a book? Can they write them? Can they think of a word using the phoneme?

It is so important that you are reading at home with your child as much as possible. If you have any questions, please ask.



Little Wandle Phonics

During our daily phonics, your child will practise their grapheme/phoneme correspondence and review our learning of Phase 2 and Phase 3. We will continue to practise reading and writing words during phonics and independently through play.

Home learning opportunity:

Ask your child to write labels, notes or lists to help with shopping. Can they hear the sounds in the word and write them?

Please support your child with their phonics at home by using their sound mat, reading book and writing practise.

<https://www.littlewandlelettersandsound.org.uk/resources/for-parents/>

Your child's teacher is also on hand to discuss ways you can help.

Tricky Words

'Tricky words' sometimes have unusual spellings or do not following usual phonemic rules. Children are exposed to tricky words frequently whilst reading and therefore need to practice them. The following words are the tricky words we are learning this half term:

I the is no of to into she he we me be was as has go you they all by pure sure

Some vocabulary we will hear from the book/topic and begin to use.

Word	Synonyms/Meaning
Minibeast	A small insect such as a caterpillar, beetle or snail.
Lifecycle	Stages a living thing goes through during its life.
Compost	A way to recycle waste into a useful material.
Earth	Soil or dirt.
Decay	To rot or breakdown.

Maths

Number: We will continue to develop our subitising and counting skills and explore the composition of numbers within and beyond 5. They will begin to identify when two sets are equal or unequal and connect two equal groups to doubles.

We will begin to understand that two equal groups can be called a 'double' and connect this to finger patterns

- sort odd and even numbers according to their 'shape'
- continue to develop their understanding of the counting sequence and link cardinality and ordinality through the 'staircase' pattern
- order numbers and play track games

- join in with verbal counts beyond 20, hearing the repeated pattern within the counting numbers.

Additional Learning:

Shape, Space and Measure:
– Exploring 3D shapes.

Additional learning at home:

<https://www.ncetm.org.uk/classroom-resources/ey-numberblocks-at-home/>

Reception's Learning for Spring 2

Donations

We would appreciate any donations of real/natural materials to support with this development, such as pallets, metal pots and pans, utensils (spoons, ladles, spatulas, mashers), tyres, wooden boxes/crates, planters and we always need junk modelling for our creative area!

If you have something else to donate but you are unsure if we need it, please just ask!

Home Learning

Can you go on a nature walk and search for signs of Spring? Perhaps you could draw a picture or take photos of what you find.

Send it into school or a photo on Dojo!

Can you practise writing your name or words using your phonics sound mat? What tricky words can you spot in a story book?

Can you practise putting on your coat and zipping it up independently?

These little tasks will support your child's fine-motor and self-help skills.

Lending Library

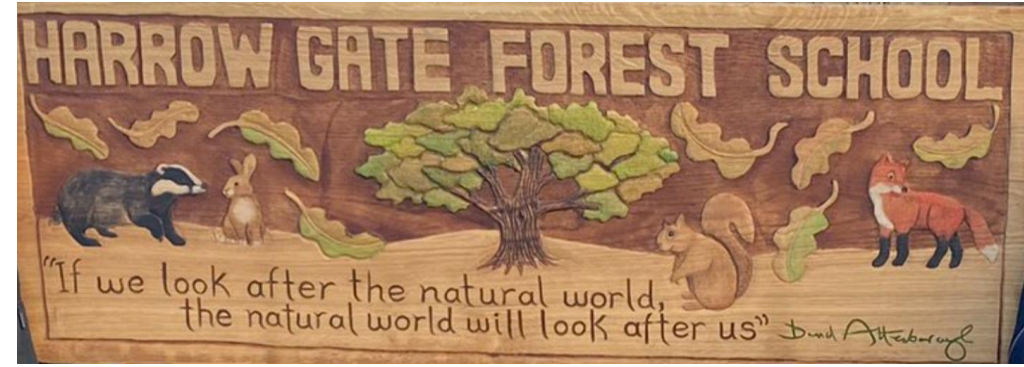
To encourage a love of reading, we are also launching our Lending Library (located in the cloakroom). Please choose a book with your child to share at home together and return it the following week to exchange for a new story.

Secret Reader!

Are you a budding storyteller? We are looking for volunteers to be a Secret Reader. Every Friday, we will welcome in a different volunteer to share a story with the class before home time. You can bring in your own favourite or choose from our collection. But sssssh....it's a secret!

PE – Balance Bikes

To support children's physical, gross-motor development and spatial awareness, the children take part in Balance Bike sessions on **Thursdays.**



We will be exploring the natural world and extending our learning in Forest School, as much as possible this term. Forest School sessions offer the opportunity for children to become completely immersed in the natural environment, develop their physical, problem-solving and communication skills.



Please ensure that your child wears comfortable and appropriate clothing. Please also provide a spare pair of clothes, just in case they need to change. We will provide children with waterproof suits.

We have some spare wellies, but not enough for everyone, so if your child has a pair at home, we would appreciate you sending them in. Children can leave wellies at school as these are used daily.

It is important that they are prepared for all weathers as we will always be going outside.