



Activities at home for Hedgehogs and Lambs

Our topic for the month of April is: Minibeasts, the outdoors and planting.

The areas we will be covering are:

- Role play - Minibeast camp
- Planting cress, sunflowers, vegetables and salad and watching/helping them grow.
- Observing the lifecycle of caterpillars to butterflies.
- Observing the lifecycle of tadpoles to frogs.
- Butterfly pictures talking about simple patterns and symmetry.
- Observing our minibeast hotel in the garden.
- Making our own minibeast houses in the garden using natural materials.
- Acting out stories - Jack and the Beanstalk, Enormous Turnip.
- Learning about different minibeasts - how many legs, wings etc..
- Ordering bugs by size, height or length.
- Minibeast and Spring craft activities.
- How minibeasts move through dance and actions.
- Messy play with minibeasts and planting equipment.
- Caring for things in the environment.
- Adding to our science table - collecting natural objects, empty seed packets.

Books, rhymes and songs:

- Enormous Turnip (story)
- Jack and the Beanstalk (story)
- Mary, Mary Quite Contrary (rhyme)
- The Very Hungry Caterpillar (story sack available to borrow from office)
- Mad about Minibeasts (story sack available to borrow from office)
- 5 Little Speckled Frogs (story sack available to borrow from office)
- Spinderella (story)
- CD stories - Over in the Meadow, Outdoor Opposites, Creepy Crawly Calypso
- What the Ladybird Heard (story)
- Lifecycle information books - frog, butterfly, bee, oak tree
- Minibeast rhymes - Wiggly Woo, Ladybird, Ladybird, Incy, Wincy Spider

Ideas how to explore this topic at home or when you are out and about:

- Visiting ponds - tadpole spotting and pond dipping.
- Helping plant in the garden and help maintain seeds/bulbs - watering.
- Visit garden centres, farms, butterfly farms.
- Drawing/painting pictures of your favourite minibeast - bring in and share.
- Making your own beanstalk and bring in to show and tell.
- Minibeast hunts in the outdoor environment - naming the minibeasts you find eg. Sammy the snail, Lucy ladybird.
- Read stories and sing rhymes about minibeasts.
- Make minibeasts out of junk modelling or playdough.
- Collecting natural objects, empty seed packets for our science table.
- Send in photos of enjoying the outdoors.