

## Foundation 2 – Newsletter 14

Can you believe we are almost at the final half term of the year?! The time has just flown by but it is lovely to be finally enjoying some Spring sunshine with Summer almost upon us. The children have loved being able to spend longer periods of time outside along with all the fun that sunny days bring.

The focus of both our **Play Project** and **Forest Adventures** has also allowed the children plenty of time outside, exploring and investigating the natural world. Our focus for both, has been 'Habitats', with the children learning about the different habitats of a variety of animals and minibeasts. In Forest Adventures, they set off with clipboards in hand ready to identify a number of minibeasts and discover their preferred hiding places. Throughout the rest of the week, the children have shown a real interest in bugs with many setting to work to discover their homes or to create new habitats for them.

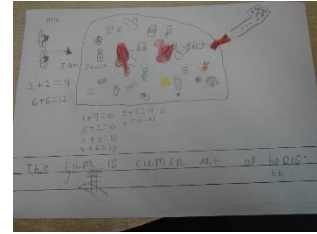


The minibeast theme continued into our Art work with the children being introduced to the artwork 'L'Escargot' (The Snail) by Henri Matisse. The children loved seeing how he had used bright contrasting colours and a variety of shapes to create a collage snail on a white background. Inspired by his abstract design, they set to work with scissors, paper and glue. Just like Matisse, they created their artwork while soothing classical music played in the background. The children all worked so carefully, each adding their own artistic style to their piece and the end results certainly reflected both their enthusiasm and individuality. Our Art afternoons are rapidly turning into one of our favourite times of the week!



## Maths

In Maths, we have been using 'first, then and now' stories to deepen the children's understanding of both addition and subtraction. They have also used these stories to help them solve missing number problems. Alongside this teaching, we have continued to provide opportunities for the children to consolidate their understanding of the number sequence, number bonds to 10, as well as their recognition of 2 and 3 dimensional shapes. Many of the children are still finding it difficult to distinguish between the two types of shapes so any help you can provide with this at home would be hugely appreciated.



## Phonics

It seems that each week the excitement surrounding the introduction of new phonic sounds grows and grows!!! Below are the sounds we have introduced during the last two weeks.

ar



arm

or



fork

ur



purse

ow



owl

## Drawing Club

Our Drawing Club sessions have also followed a Minibeast theme! Last week, we read the Poem '**It's tough being a snail!**' The rhyme introduced the children to a wealth of description language and proved to be the perfect starter for the creation of a class descriptive word bank, which many then used to write sentences and even acrostic poems. This week, the children have loved reading the story '**The Giant Jam Sandwich**' by **John Vernon**. The story exposed them to plenty of vocabulary for emotions and actions and proved to be a fabulous springboard for independent writing in a variety of forms including instructions and explanations.

### Ideas to try at home.....

Go on a minibeast hunt in the garden or the park. Which bugs did you find and where?

Create a different abstract minibeast using collaged pieces of bright paper in the style of Matisse.

Go on a Shape hunt around the house. See if you can find examples of 2 and 3 dimensional shapes.

It looks like we could be in for a wonderfully sunny half-term! We hope you all have a lovely, relaxing week off and we look forward to seeing you all refreshed for the start of our final term.

Warmest Wishes

The FS2 Winchcombe Team xx