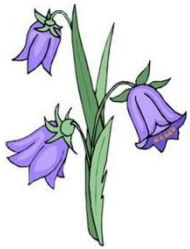
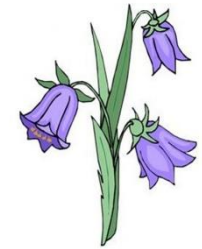


How can you help your child at home?



Reading

Continue to share a range of fiction & non-fiction books at home, including the children's reading books from school. Recording how they are getting on in their Reading Logs. Practising any tricky words or letter sounds that have been sent home with your child by playing matching games, snap, I spy or something similar. Find out about your child's favourite mini-beasts by doing some research together using library books or on the internet.



Writing

Encourage your child to use the correct letter formation – please let me know if you need another letter formation sheet.
Can they write down the names of mini-beasts they have found or that they have found out about?
Can they sound out simple words and have a go at writing them, e.g. bus, cat etc?
Can they help you write a shopping list?
Encourage your child to have a go at drawing pictures of a story they have made up and writing captions under them.

Talking

Encourage your child to discuss mini-beasts that they see when you are out and about. How many legs have they got? Have they got wings?
What are they called?
How many different types of mini-beast can they name?
Can they describe what they look like? Ask them what they would like to find out more about during the topic.
Encourage your child to talk about what they have been learning at school.

Stories

Visit the local library to look for non-fiction books about different types of mini-beasts. There are also lots of really good fiction books available with mini-beasts as themes. Make up your own stories together about mini-beasts. Who could be in their story? What might happen?
Where could the story take place?

Making

We will be making all sorts of min-beasts out of all sorts of materials but have fun making them at home too. Encourage your child to think about which type of material would be most appropriate for their creations. If things don't quite go according to plan how could they adapt their model?

Resources

If you have any resources to support our topic at home please send them in, clearly named – thank you. In particular we need:

- Mini-beast dressing up outfits (ladybirds, bees, wings, deely boppers, etc).
- Small plastic animal tanks.
- Dishwasher tablet boxes – they are stronger than cereal boxes!

We will also be doing lots of planting and gardening, so if you have any spare seeds or could donate a packet we would be very grateful to have them.

Outdoor learning

This topic lends itself to a lot of outdoor learning so please ensure that your child has a suitable coat, hat and sensible footwear with them in school each day.

A final heartfelt 'Thank You'

Last term I thoroughly enjoyed speaking to you all during parents' evenings and would like to thank you for your support and positive comments. I am delighted to have received such lovely report comment forms. Our good relationships can only make your child's learning experiences more fruitful, enriching and successful, so thank you.

Please do not hesitate to contact us if you would like to speak to us about anything. Thank you as always for your on-going support.

The Foundation Years Team