



Home Learning Newsletter: Summer 2

Dear Parents,

We hope you are all keeping safe and well. We are missing the children terribly and are looking forward to a time when we can welcome you back to school.

This half term, our topic would have been 'Mini-beasts'. The text our learning is based on is 'The Very Hungry Caterpillar' by Eric Carle (available to buy on Amazon for approximately £5). We have listed some activities below and attached some challenges and ideas for you to work through with your child.

Practical Activities to complete at home:

The Very Hungry Caterpillar

• Read 'The Very Hungry Caterpillar' with your child or watch an online version together.

Choose a different focus each time you read the book:

- Talk about the fruit the caterpillar is eating, have you ever eaten it? Did you like it?
- Count the fruit which the caterpillar is eating, point whilst counting, what will come next?
- Talk about the days of the week, what day is it today? What did he eat on that day in the story?
- Listen to the 7 Days of the Week Song <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3tx0rvuXIRg> sing the song with your child.
- Make up your own version of The Very Hungry Caterpillar, perhaps change it to, 'The Very Hungry Child', what would they like to eat? Draw pictures of their favourite foods.
- Buy the fruits from the story next time you go shopping. Eat the fruit on the same day the caterpillar does, e.g. on Thursday, eat some strawberries.
- Make a fruit salad with your child, using the fruit from the story or any other fruit you like!
- Talk about why the ice-cream, chocolate cake etc. made the caterpillar poorly. Sort some food from your kitchen into healthy foods/treat foods.
- Look through the book and talk about the different stages of the caterpillar's life (egg, caterpillar, cocoon, butterfly), draw pictures of each stage, cut them out and place them in a circle to show a 'life cycle'.

Resource Pack

We have attached lots of resources based around the story and on mini-beasts in general. Make sure you have read the story lots with your child and that they know it really well before starting on the activities. Here are some ideas on how to use the resources;

- Read the story, 'The Cautious Caterpillar', about a caterpillar who does not want to change into a butterfly. Relate this to your child, e.g. they may not want to go to a new class/back to school, but they need to be brave like the caterpillar.
- Read through the information powerpoint about slugs and snails, can you remember some information to tell a family member? Go into your garden or to the park, look under plant pots or rocks and see if you can find any slugs or snails.
- Look at the 'Spiders' information powerpoint and discover new information about spiders. Can you find any spiders in your house or garden?
- How many legs do spiders have? Count to 8, draw your own spider and carefully draw on 8 legs, 4 on one side, 4 on the other, how many altogether? Now draw a spider with 3 legs on one side and 5 on the other side, how many altogether? Etc.
- Use the 'Mini-beasts – What can you see?' powerpoint with your child. Encourage your child to look carefully and talk about the mini-beast that you can see, how many legs? Can you see its eyes? What is it sitting on? Etc.
- Read through the 'Mini-beasts and their Micro-Habitats' with your child. Talk about where mini-beasts live, what they eat, can you find any of these habitats in your garden/local park?
- Look at the 'Mini-Beasts – What Am I?' powerpoint. Take your time whilst reading the clues, after each one ask, "What could it be?" then reveal the next clue and see if it could still be that.

- Choose some of the 'Mini-Beast Investigation Sheets' to print out. Answer the questions on the sheet, use the other information powerpoints to find the answers. Find some of the minibeasts in your garden/local park and look carefully at them to answer the questions.
- Take the 'Mini-beast Hunt' sheet into your garden/local park, tick them off when you have seen them. Remember, finding mini-beasts is difficult, we have to be very patient and get down close to the ground, looking in corners and dark places.
- Make your own junk model mini-beast using recycling from your house (ideas are attached in the resource pack).
- Read the powerpoint story about Little Bear returning to school, talk to your child about how things may look a little different when they return and how they may feel about this.
- Make your own picture using the minibeast cut-outs, practice your cutting skills
- Sing the Mini-beasts Nursery Rhymes, choose one a day and make up your own tunes! Make your own instruments to sing along (rice in a bottle, pans and spoons etc.)

Don't feel that you have to complete each powerpoint in one sitting, in class we would usually do these over a few days, making sure we are talking lots about each page before moving on.

Other places to continue accessing home learning:

Twinkl

Twinkl is an online tool which we use as a school and they have said that they will provide parents and families with free access during these unprecedented times. More details can be found here:

Accessing Twinkl for free is really easy - go to www.twinkl.co.uk/offer and enter the code UKTWINKLHELPS

<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/> lots of fun maths games and resources

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/school-radio/nursery-rhymes-songs-index/zhwdgwx> songs and rhymes to sing along with

<https://www.doorwayonline.org.uk/literacy/letterformation/> a good site for letter formation

Keeping in Touch

School will keep you updated via Twitter, Parentmail and the school website. If you need to contact school, this can be done via the info@stannesroyton.oldham.sch.uk

All the links within this letter can be found on our class webpage so you will be able to click them rather than type them all in!

May we take this opportunity to thank you for your continued support through these very difficult times. Our thoughts and prayers are with everyone at this time.

Mrs Mitchell and Mrs Russell