



Jewell Academy
an Aspirations Academy



Year R: Spring Term 2 2024



All Creatures, Great and Small.

Driving Question:

How can we, as zoo keepers, create the right environment for our animals?

Launch: Find some special 'tracks' and clues, and identify which animals have visited our classrooms and garden.

This half term will bring a huge array of fantastic learning opportunities. We will be immersed in our topic finding out about 'All Creatures Great and Small'. We will discover the range of different places we might find minibeasts and other animals, as well as what they might need to survive. We will learn about lifecycles by watching our caterpillars turn into butterflies and even create our own Bug Hotels. We will also look closely at plants and growing by planting our own seeds.

The Sharks and Turtles will also experience a visit from The Creature Teachers which will give us real-life experience with animals. This will help us to learn new vocabulary and to use it when we write our poems.



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RESILIENCE:
**We Keep
On Trying**

**People,
Culture and
Communities**
Easter and
Christianity

Natural World
We will be
discovering lots
about different
minibeasts and the
places they live as
well as considering
what plants need to
grow.

**Expressive
Art and
Design**

We will use
many different
minibeasts as
inspiration for
our creative
work

Literacy
We will be
learning Phase 3
Phonics and
continuing to ask
and answer
questions about
what we have
read.

Vocabulary:

Minibeast
Plant
Stem
Roots
Growing
Habitat
Lifecycle
Metamorphosis
Chrysalis

Learning conversations to have at home:

What is a minibeast?

What is your favourite minibeast? Why? Do you know anything interesting about it?
What would you like to find out about minibeasts and where could we go to find the answers?

Do you know any stories that have minibeasts in them? What makes them special?



Topic Home learning:

This half term we would love the children to create a mini fact file about their favourite minibeast, animal or bird. They could draw or stick pictures, write facts or you could even record them sharing what they have discovered and save it on Tapestry for us to see.
Please return by 22nd March 2024 so we can share in class.

Future Careers:

We will be visited by The Creature Teachers who will introduce us to some amazing animals great and small. We will consider how we need to look after them and who could help us to do that.
Creature Teachers visit to school: **Thursday February 29th 2024 9.30am**

Landing: **Wednesday March 13th 2024 10am-11am**

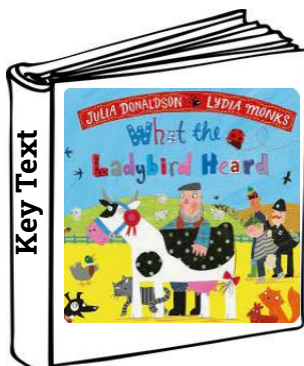
Parents / carers are invited to join us in a visit to Forest Schools to complete a bug hunt and create a Bug Hotel with their child. We look forward to seeing you!



Reading: This half term we will be sharing a range of fiction, non-fiction and poems including 'What the Ladybird Heard' by Julia Donaldson, 'Jasper's Beanstalk' by Nick Butterworth and Mick Inkpen and 'Not For Me Please, I Choose to Act Green!' - Maria Godsey. We will continue to practise retelling and sequencing, answering and asking questions about what we have read.

Can you recall other books we have read by Julia Donaldson?

What minibeast would you be if this was your story?



Is this a fiction or nonfiction book?

What do you think the Ladybird heard?

English

- ★ Use knowledge of Basic 2 and 3 phonics to read and write.
- ★ Write more complex sentences using a conjunction.
- ★ Write instructions.

How can you help at home?

- Encourage children to practice writing with a purpose eg: list, postcard or recipe.
- Encourage children to write a sentence.

Maths

- ★ Use number bond knowledge to make 9 and 10.
- ★ Symmetry and patterns.
- ★ Telling the time to o'clock.

How can you help at home?

Support and encourage mathematical vocabulary related to number, shape and size. Ask questions such as, "How many can you find?" "How many is one more?" "How many is one less?"

Communication and Language

We will be continuing to practise asking and answering simple questions using what and where. We will also start to share/ debate why a book/ minibeast is their favourite and why.

Expressive Art and Design

We will be planning and designing our own Bug Hotel. We will be learning to plan, review and evaluate our creations and hopefully welcome some bugs into our very own Bug Hotels!

Physical Development

We will continue to work on our fine motor skills. We will also enjoy developing our movement skills creating some Dance movements to represent Minibeasts..

Understanding the World.

We will look at how even minibeasts can impact our planet and how we can help creatures great and small to help our planet.

Dates for the diary

Tuesday 21st February - Creature Teachers
 Wednesday 6th March- Preacher the Storyteller
 Thursday 7th March - World Book Day
 Thursday 23rd March- 10.00-11.00 Forest School with Parents /Carers
 Friday 24th March - Home Learning due in
 Friday 31st March - End of Term

Personal, Social and Emotional Development.

This term we will be focusing on 'Healthy Me' and looking at how we can stay fit and healthy and how the food we eat can help us stay fit and well.

