

EIFS OUTSIDE LEARNING PROJECT FACT SHEET

LEARNING ABOUT LIVING THINGS (3 – 5 age range)



Photograph courtesy of Bayonne Nursery School, Part of the Thames Federation

Key activities:

Exploring living things by:

- Making a bug hotel and checking out its guests
- Making a 'natural wormery' by laying a piece of carpet down outside and checking it regularly
- Make a birdfeeder and chart the birds who use it
- Making a wormery and map their movement
- Visiting the urban farm
- Visiting ducks on the local pond

Suggested Learning and development links in communication and language and understanding the world:

- Use a wider range of vocabulary.
- Understand 'why' questions.
- Understand the key features of the life cycle of an animal.
- Begin to understand the need to respect and care for the natural environment and all living things.

- Learn new vocabulary and use it throughout the day.
- Ask questions to find out more and to check they understand what has been said to them.
- Articulate their words and thoughts in well formed sentences.

- Describe events in some detail.
- Engage in non-fiction books.
- Encourage children to recognize familiar animals whilst outside.

(Taken from the new Development Matters (Non-statutory curriculum guidance for the EYFS 2020))

Characteristics of effective teaching and learning:

- Respond to new experiences that you bring to their attention.
- Know more so feel confident to come up with their own suggestions. Make more links between those ideas.

(Taken from the new Development Matters (Non-statutory curriculum guidance for the EYFS 2020))

Oral Story Telling:

Anansi stories

Books:

The Very Busy Spider by Eric Carle
 The Bad Tempered Ladybird by Eric Carle
 The Very Hungry Caterpillar by Eric Carle
 Ladybird, Ladybird by Ruth Brown
 Aaargghh Spider! By Lydia Monks
 The Centipede's 100 Shoes by Tony Ross
 Butterfly by Mick Inkpen
 Growing Frogs by V French
 Yucky Worms by V French
 The Boy who lost his Bumble, T Esberger
 The Big Book of Bugs by Y Zommer
 What the ladybird heard by J Donaldson
 Slug in Love by R Bright

Poetry:

Minibeasties by Michael Rosen

Songs and rhymes:

Five Little Speckled Frogs
 There's a worm at the bottom of my garden...
 The ants went marching 1 by 1

Online topic selections:

CLPE:

Animals and habitats:

https://clpe.org.uk/corebooks/books?f%5B0%5D=im_field_theme_ref%3A5917&f%5B1%5D=im_field_theme_ref%3A5916

Minibeasts:

<https://www.booksfortopics.com/minibeasts>

Top ten books about minibeasts: <https://senresourcesblog.com/2018/08/03/top-ten-books-about-minibeasts/>

Useful websites:

RHS Wildlife wonders

Including:

- Draw a map of your garden
- Make a bug hotel
- Mini-beasts identification key
- Mini wormery
- Worms up close

<https://schoolgardening.rhs.org.uk/Resources/Class-growing-topic/Wildlife-Wonders?returnUrl=%2FResources%2FFind-a-resource%3Fso%3D0%26pi%3D0%26ps%3D10%26f%3D1,8:%26page%3D1>

RHS Bird feeder garland: <https://schoolgardening.rhs.org.uk/Resources/Activity/Bird-Feeder-Garland?returnUrl=%2FResources%2FFind-a-resource%3Fso%3D0%26pi%3D10%26ps%3D10%26f%3D1,1:%26page%3D2>

RHS how to make a ladybird seed bomb

<https://schoolgardening.rhs.org.uk/Resources/Sequence-Card/How-to-make-a-ladybird-seed-bomb?returnUrl=%2FResources%2FFind-a-resource%3Fso%3D0%26pi%3D0%26ps%3D10%26f%3D1,4:%26page%3D1>

What is a minibeast? www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/blog/2019/05/minibeast-facts/

Videos:

Make a birdfeeder: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies/makes/mr-blooms-nursery-bird-feeder>

Minibeast adventures: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies/shows/mini-beast-adventure-with-jess>

Make an easy bug hotel: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Smv_9vgN39A

How to make a bee hotel: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=b9-qJuDgKnU>

Reception lessons from the online Oak Academy:

- To identify animals that live in woodland
- Construct a minibeast
- To identify what habitat minibeasts like

<https://classroom.thenational.academy/units/woodland-f2b5>

Local community provision:

- Your own school grounds
- Your local park – no need to book
- HCGA: Phoenix Farm in the White City: rabbits, bees, and chickens, as well as a wildlife pond: <https://hcga.org.uk/gardens/phoenix-farm-in-white-city/>

Setting up an environment where minibeasts will flourish



Photograph courtesy of James Lee Nursery School, Part of the Thames Federation