

### Key texts and topics.

This half term we will be learning all about Minibeasts. We will be learning how a caterpillar changes into a butterfly and we will be reading lots of stories such as Superworm, The Snail and the Whale, Superworm, Aaaarrggh! Spider and What the Ladybird Heard. Our student teacher Miss Ali will also be working in nursery with us for the next few weeks. If you would like to contribute to the snack fund where we can buy different snacks for the children to enjoy please give a £3 contribution to the nursery team. We will have some class pets for a few weeks as we watch how the egg grows and changes to a caterpillar and then to a butterfly. We look forward to observing the changes closely. We will be hunting for minibeasts, making a bug hotel and learning lots of facts about them. We will also be exploring frogspawn and talking about how the tadpoles change in to frogs.



### P.S.E.D. and SCARF

We will be settling back in to nursery after the holidays and welcoming the new children and families to our setting. We will continue to develop relationships with our friends and teachers as well as building our self esteem and confidence. We will continue learning to share and take turns and have a go at problem solving. We will continue to think about our feelings and the feelings of others as well as how we can be a good friend.

We will be learning about how to keep our bodies healthy and being our best!

### Physical Development

We will continue to develop our independence and self care skills with using the toilet confidently as well as practising fastening the zips on our coats and putting our own shoes and jumpers on. We will be using lots of writing tools as we develop our pencil grip as well as using different tools such as pipettes, tweezers, brushes, scissors and hole punchers. We will continue with our Squiggle Whilst you Wiggle movement programme as we learn to move our bodies in a range of ways carefully and competently. We will continue to practice writing our name regularly and we will be developing our early writing skills as we mark make for a range of purposes in the different areas of provision in nursery. We will be developing our ability to use scissors making snips and cutting around shapes.

### Communication and Language

We will continue to sing lots of nursery rhymes daily and we will be developing our communication and language as we interact lots with our teachers and with our friends in our play. We will be learning lots of new vocabulary to do with minibeasts and life cycles. We will continue to develop our ability to have a conversation with our teachers and friends, sharing and taking turns as well as developing our negotiating skills. We will be developing understanding by asking who, what, where and why questions to the children.



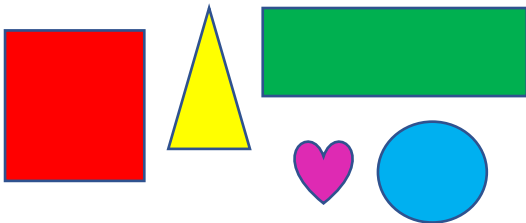
We will be singing lots of rhymes and songs as well as listening to stories that rhyme.

We will be learning to spot and suggest rhyming words as well as clapping out syllables in words.

We will be learning a different sound each week as well as blending the sounds we hear to make words.

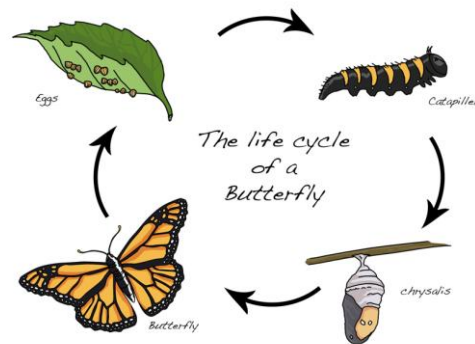
### Maths

We will be singing lots of counting rhymes as well as counting objects carefully and accurately. We will be subitising with a range of objects as well as matching amount to the numeral. We will be consolidating our understanding of more than and less than and we will continue to develop our understanding of prepositions such as under, on top, next to, behind, between, in front, above and below. We will be sorting 2d and 3d shapes as we continue to learn the names and their properties. We will be comparing and sorting objects as well as making repeating patterns.



### Understanding the World

We will be learning about the need to respect and care for the natural environment and all living things as we learn about minibeasts and we will be learning all about the life cycle of a butterfly as we observe how the egg changes to a caterpillar and then a butterfly. We will continue to develop positive attitudes about the differences between people and we will be talking about who and what objects are special to different faiths in our RE work.



### Expressive Arts and Design

We will be singing lots of songs and rhymes as well as playing instruments in a range of ways. We will be drawing with a range of tools as well as using different materials to make models and join materials together. We will be developing our imagination in the home corner and with the small world people, animals and minibeasts as we join in with pretend play, acting out stories and scenarios with our friends. We will be making models of minibeasts using junk modelling 3d shapes and glue and sellotape as well as learning about symmetry and pattern when we paint butterflies. We will be making a bug hotel in the outdoor area to encourage the minibeasts to stay there for us to look at.

### How you can help your child at home

Please take a story home each week and read these every night to your child. By the end of the week your child should be able to read the story back to you which would be amazing! Please encourage your child to get dressed themselves as well as fastening the zips on their coat. Count as much as you can with your child and sing the rhyme of the week that we send home. Go on a shape hunt and talk about the shapes that you can find. Ask your child to give you a word that rhymes with.... and see if they can independently count out the number of syllables in a word. Please help your child with their toileting skills as they develop their independence with self care. You could also encourage your child to draw with a range of tools to help develop their pencil grip as well as practising to write their name.

