

Medium Term Planning EYFS

Summer Term 2 2018 – ‘Helping Hands: Over and Under the Pond’

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

- How can we have helpful hands in our preschool?
- What can we do inside and outside that would be helpful?
- How can we look after our tadpoles (and later our caterpillars)?
- How do we look after living creatures and plants?
- How do other people feel if we use our hands in a bad way? What do we do if we hurt someone with our hands or with our words?
- Taking turn and listening games
- Working together to create team/collective displays/garden projects/pond projects and sharing what we have learnt with others.

Communication, Language and Literacy

- Key Texts – ‘Over and Under the Pond’ Kate Messner, ‘From Tadpole to Frog’ information book. ‘The Frog Prince’ Traditional story. ‘The Very Hungry Caterpillar’ Eric Carle ‘Dear Green Peace’ Simon James ‘Tadpole’s Promise’ Jeanne Willis
- Audio books and Safeshare TV clips of our favourite Pond topic stories.
- Songs and CDs with pond related songs and nursery rhymes.
- Pond Small world play – green water beads, frogs, logs etc – learning the names of pond life creatures and creating stories with them
- Frog hopping games – describing where things are, directions, movements, using language to describe
- Naming creatures and plants outside and describing them. Talking about how they grow and change over time.

Physical Development

Fine Motor Skills

- Using Clay – making nests (sticks) Moulding different pond creatures – frog, fish, butterflies
- Threading and making patterns using natural materials, making leaf and stick creations, tying knots
- Hungry caterpillar playdough station
- Scissor skills
- Mark making with different natural materials

Gross Motor Skills

- Moving like different pond creatures – moving to music
- Parachute pond style games
- Washing windows/rollers and squeegees
- Gardening – using tools/brushes/buckets
- Outside – jumping/hopscotch/ladder games
- Paint splat/fly swat
- Water bottle sprayers
- Lily pad hopping

Mathematical Development

- 5 little speckled frogs counting activities and frog maths (adding and taking away)
- 5 little froggies sitting on a well
- Days of the week and counting foods - Hungry caterpillar – Making our own hungry caterpillar numbers stories
- Finding numbers outside/number hunts/counting games
- Shape and Pattern butterflies

Expressive Arts and Designs

- Creating a learning display to show the life cycle of a frog and a butterfly
- Making symmetrical print paintings of butterfly wings inspired by Eric Carle
- Transforming our role play area into the ‘Frog Prince’s Castle’ with Prince and Princess Dresses, Banquet food and kitchen, invitations
- Hand print butterflies
- Exploring flowers, mixing colours, creating collages.
- Using Minibeasts as our art inspiration, what shapes and colours can we see?
- Water Lilies – Monet inspired art work

Playing & Exploring (Engagement): First hand experiences, Acting out Stimulating environment Open-ended activities, Challenges, showing interests, using senses

Websites and Resources

<https://www.wildlifewatch.org.uk/activities-sheets>

Understanding the World

- Watching our tadpoles as they grow and change, feeding them, looking after them and their environment. Thinking about where they will live when they become frogs.
- Visiting our pond area and exploring the flora and fauna we find – scavenger hunts, learning names, collecting samples, pond dipping.
- Making slime and exploring properties of different building materials to make animals homes.
- Make minibeast homes and butterfly feeders
- Make an edible pond (jelly)
- Gardening; sowing seeds, looking after the plants
- Exploring water – floating and sinking

Creating and Thinking Critically (Thinking): Making connections, mind maps, awareness of learning, testing ideas, problem solving, making patterns, developing ideas, implementing ideas, review work

Active Learning (Motivation): Getting involved in activities over a period of time, giving children time to immerse themselves, keep trying after challenges, bouncing back, pride in their work (individually and as a team)