



Summer Week 5 - Home Learning

Dear Squirrel class,

We hope that you and your families are all well and staying safe.

We are really enjoying seeing your photographs and messages on Google Classrooms. You all seem to be keeping very busy and you have been creating some wonderful bugs, cooking delicious treats and going on mini-beast hunts.

We are continuing our learning about bugs and this week, our focus is spiders. In school, we have read and enjoyed the story *Aaaarrgghh, Spider!* By Lydia Monks. If you don't have this book at home, there are some lovely videos of the book being read on YouTube. There are lots of other Spider stories, such as *The Very Busy Spider* by Eric Carle, and information books, too.



Please do remember that the children in Nursery are a wide range of ages, so some of these activities may capture your interest more than others. That is absolutely fine. We hope that you enjoy some of these ideas for learning at home.

Maths

Session 1- Last week, we were learning about one more. This week, we are going to learn about one less. Use the bee number cards that you made last week. Line the cards up, from one to ten, so that you can see the bees. Pick up the card with two bees. The number that is one less, is the card before that one. That is one. Choose a card and count the bees to check which number you have chosen. Which card shows one less? Repeat this for different cards. One less is the number before. Turn the cards over, so that you can see the numbers. Try the activity again.

Session 2 – Collect a set of six similar objects from around your home. You could use toy cars, spoons, cuddly toys or figures. Set the objects in a line in front of you. Count how many there are. Take one away from the line. How many do you have now? That is one less. Take one away from the five objects. How many do you have now? That is one less. Repeat the activity until all the objects have been taken away.

Session 3- Choose a favourite cuddly toy. Can you place your toy in different places around your home? Can you sit it **on top of** a chair? Place it **under** a table. Can you put it **behind** your back? Place it **between** two other toys. Ask someone in your family to suggest ideas of where to place the toy, using these positional words.

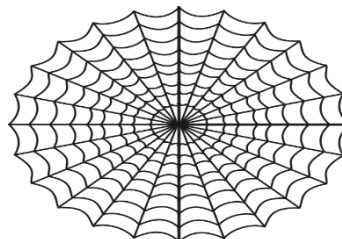
Session 4 - This time, it is your turn to use the positional words. Ask someone in your family to choose a toy and you are going to tell them where to put the toy. Use the words **under, over, on top, under, between**. How inventive can you be with your ideas? You could hide a toy and explain where it is, using the vocabulary.

Session 5 – Investigate how many legs different insects and bugs have. A Spider has eight legs. How many legs do other creatures have? You could draw a different creature for each number in your blue book or on paper.



English and Physical development

Session 1- Look at some pictures of spider webs. You could search for real webs too. Look at the beautiful patterns.



Try drawing patterns like this. Use your finger to draw in bubbles in your bath, sand in your sandpit or foam, flour or talcum powder on a tray. You could use chalk outside or paint on paper. Try to carefully copy the curved patterns and control the lines that you create.

Session 2- Create a spider web, using a crayon, pen or a pencil on paper. You need to hold it correctly and keep good control. Ask someone in your family to help you to start. If this is tricky, you could carefully copy over a drawing of a web. You can do this on white paper, or you could make a night time web on dark blue or black paper.

Session 3- Play a target game. Draw your own web, or ask someone to draw one for you, and use it as your target. You could do this outside and draw a web using chalk, or you could choose a target that you are going to aim for. Try throwing a small ball or beanbag, if you have one, at the target. Include other people in your family and make it into a game.

Session 4- Make some space in your home, or go into your garden and set up an obstacle course. You could use piles of cushions, chairs, your bed or a table. If you

have a climbing frame or furniture outside, you could use that. Move in different ways **through, under, over, between** and **behind**. Try to use the positional language that you have learned in our maths sessions. Move in the way that different creatures would travel around. Scurry like a spider, crawl like an ant and wriggle like a worm.

Phonics

Please see separate information.

Reading

This week, our focus is books about spiders.

Session 1- Share the book *Aaaarrgghh, Spider!* By Lydia Monks. There are videos of the story being read on YouTube. Pause before the end of the story. What do you think will happen in the end? Finish sharing the story. Were you right? Was it a happy ending for all of the characters?

Session 2- Read the story *Aaaarrgghh, Spider!* again. Pause after looking at a few pages. The Spider wants to belong to a family and be a pet. Why do you think the people keep putting him outside? How does he feel? Continue with the story. How does the spider feel when the people let him be their pet?

Session 3- Talk about the setting of the story. Most of the events happen inside the house, but do the characters go anywhere else? Look carefully at the pictures. Which rooms of the house feature in the book?

There are lots of other wonderful stories about bugs that you could read or share to finish off our theme. Eric Carle has written many books, such as *The Quiet Cricket*, *The Very Busy Spider* and *The Very Lonely Firefly*. *Superworm* by Julia Donaldson has lovely rhyming text. Have a look on YouTube and check your own bookshelves to find more stories, poems and information books.

Wider Curriculum (Topic) The Very Hungry Caterpillar and other bugs

Understanding the World:

After you have completed your obstacle course, stop and think about how you feel. Did it make parts of your body tired? Is your breathing faster or slower than it was before? Exercise affects your body and sometimes you might feel as though you need a little rest afterwards.

Think about how you feel when you are having a quiet sit down. Stand up and jump around, dance or run. When you stop, how do you feel? Place your flat hand on your chest. Can you feel your heart beating? It will be beating faster, after you have exercised.

This week, we have been learning about spiders. They are not insects, as they have eight legs and insects have six. Can you use the internet and books to find out any other interesting information about spiders?

Go on a web and spider hunt around your home and garden. Even if you don't find any spiders, you might find some webs that they have made. Do you know how and why they create them?

Listening and Attention:

Sing some songs and rhymes about spiders. Please see the song words attachment for some ideas.

Spiderman got his name because his powers are like those of a spider. He can shoot out webs and use them to swing through the air. Can you think of what special powers other superheroes have? What would your super powers be, if you were a superhero? Would you like to have the abilities of one of the bugs that we have been learning about? Maybe you would like to be Beegirl, Antboy or The Centipede. What powers would other people in your family choose?

Arts and Design:

Make a paper plate spider. If you don't have a plate at home, you can use a circle of paper or card. Use pipe cleaners or cut strips of card to add eight legs to your spider. Add other features, such as eyes. You could use paint, coloured pens or collage to add detail. Attach some string and then you can hang your spider up at home.

Create a glittery web. Using glue, draw a web on paper. Dark blue or black is best, but you can use any paper. When the glue is still wet, sprinkle glitter over the paper. Allow your picture to dry and then carefully shake off the excess glitter. You will be left with a twinkly web picture. If you don't have any glitter, try sprinkling a little salt, talcum powder or sand instead.

Reminder about other useful websites:

<https://www.eyfshome.com> offers activities for 3-5 year olds in a range of curriculum areas.

Twinkl, YouTube, Phonicsplay

9 am - Jo Wicks, The Bodycoach, has his YouTube workout (Monday – Friday)

Other recommendations:

It is very difficult to fit in school work sometimes, but if you can, try to do some of these activities during the week.

We hope that you enjoy your learning this week and can't wait to see or hear about what you have been doing at home.

We hope to see you soon,

Love from Mrs. Millman and Mrs. Saraff