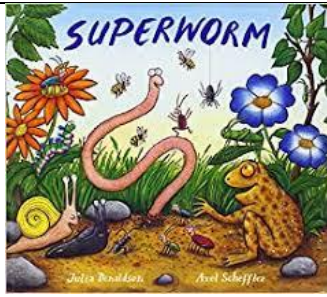


SUMMER TERM WEEK 11: NURSERY HOME LEARNING

Try to complete 2/3 activities a day with your child.



SUPERWORM!



Maths Activities

- Have a bowl of buttons or bottle top lids. Challenge your children to place the buttons or lids in a row to create the longest worm they can across the room! Can they find things which are longer or shorter than it? Can they sort these things into 2 groups – longer or shorter? Can they make worms longer than someone in their family when they lie on the floor?
- Get together your own collection of worms (string, spaghetti, playdough, paper) and see if you can cut them to different lengths. Talk about the lengths and even measure with a ruler or tape measure.
- Draw some worm number lines – start the number lines at different numbers and ask your children to complete them.



- Encourage the children to practise counting actions. Whisper how many times to slide like a snail or march like an ant. Ask the children to count the actions.
- Place a tray with light pink paint outside, with several pieces of string of differing lengths in front of the tray. The children can explore making worms of differing lengths.



Literacy Activities

- Read lots of different minibeast-themed books to the children, encouraging them to join in with repeated refrains.
- Look at the pictures in the book and discuss which is your favourite minibeast and why.
- Share the [Minibeast Hunt Can You Find Poster and Prompt Card](#) with the children. Ask the children questions about what they can see on the card.
- Create a variety of minibeast sensory trays outside for the children to explore and describe. For example, add spaghetti to represent worms. Add red jelly and black pom-poms to represent ladybirds.
- **Create a phonics tray** for things starting with 's' or 'w'.
- Read everyday. Chose some rhyming books and encourage children to hear the rhyming words and carry on the string of rhyme. Choose books with lots of repetition so that children can join in.
- **Draw a picture of what you did today.** Write down what your child tells you about their picture.

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- **Numberblocks** watch a clip on Cbeebies every day at: [BBC or Cbeebies](#), and have fun recreating the number characters with blocks or objects around your house. Use this guide [here to give](#) you ideas on what to do with your children whilst watching an episode.
- Sing a number song:
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/p065s47t>



Topic Activities



- Listen to 'Superworm' by Julia Donaldson and Axel Scheffler.
Story - <https://safeYouTube.net/w/0xol>
- Look at the story without the sound – can children re-tell the story?
- Stick some large sheets of paper over a table top and encourage children to draw a story map. Encourage them to talk about and retell the story in their own words.
- Cut out minibeast-shaped paper for the children to use to draw and mark make on. For example, butterfly or snail-shaped pieces of paper.
- Create a minibeast-themed box of books for the children to use.
- Set up a small world version of the story to encourage children to retell it.
- Encourage the children to go on a real minibeast hunt in their outside area and discuss what minibeasts they can find.
- Cut out minibeast-shaped paper for the children to use to draw and mark make on. For example, butterfly or snail-shaped pieces of paper.
- Create a minibeast-themed box of books for the children to use.
- Have some large sticks available so that the children can use the sticks to draw minibeasts in the soil, such as wiggly worms.

Personal, Social and Emotional:

- Talk about using gentle hands when collecting minibeasts and link this to using gentle hands with friends.
- Encourage the children to share their experiences of minibeasts and which minibeasts they like/do not like to see.
- Talk to the children about caring for minibeasts in the local area and why it is important to look after minibeasts.
- Provide mirrors and [Minibeast Photos](#). Encourage the children to choose a photo and make a face to show how that minibeast makes them feel.

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Try to complete 2/3 activities a day with your child.

- Work together with your child and include other members of your household to create homes for different minibeasts. You could use a tissue box and fill their tissue box with leaves, twigs, etc. and leave it outside for minibeasts to live in. This is all about learning to work together.
- Provide den-making materials outside for children to work with you to construct a 'minibeast den'.
- Encourage the children to look after and care for minibeasts they find in the outside area. Remind the children to be quiet near the minibeasts and to be very gentle if they handle them. Also, remind the children to put minibeasts back where they found them.

Let's get moving:

- Superworm has many abilities and many moves. How many super moves can you do in 1 minute?
- Superworm the skipping rope. How many skips can you do in 1 minute? Can a grown up time you? Check your counting! How else can you move your body like Superworm. Can you hula hoop for 1 minute? Can you use your body as a swing – swing your arms? Can you count 20 of one move and count it?
- Get the children active by encouraging them to move like different minibeasts!
- Play some minibeast-themed music or songs, such as, 'The Flight of the Bumblebee' by Nikolai Rimsky-Korsakov.

<https://safeYouTube.net/w/lnol>

Encourage the children to move to the music.

- Try this 'Cosmic Kids Yoga' - All about Bugs

<https://safeYouTube.net/w/jsol>

Or for a higher energy workout, try [one of these five minute workouts](#)

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Password: cRivwYoU

- It is important to continue to develop strength and dexterity in your children's hands. There are a number of ideas [here](#) so choose something that you have resources for at home.
- Help the children to make some salt dough minibeasts. Encourage them to roll and shape the dough into balls and then add pipe cleaner, straws, sticks, pom poms, buttons etc for limbs.
- Encourage the children to try finger painting to create or decorate some minibeasts. They could use their fingerprints to create a long caterpillar or add black spots to a red ladybird.
- Help the children to practise and improve their scissor skills using these [Minibeast-Themed Cutting Skills Worksheets](#).
- Use chalk to draw a large snail . Add a bucket with water and paintbrushes and encourage the children to create snail trails leading from the snail.
- Draw two circles to represent a caterpillar's head and the first part of his body. Challenge the children to add more circles to complete the caterpillar.

Get Creative:

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- Worm Dance Worms come to the surface when they hear the rain on the ground. Sometimes noises convince them it is raining and to come up. Can you make up your own rain dance to make the worms appear? E.g. Worm Rain Dance 10 stamps - one foot 10 stamps - other foot 6 claps 5 bunny hops 2 spins 4 times shout "RAIN"
- Show the children videos of minibeasts and discuss how the minibeasts move. Play music and encourage the children to move like the different minibeasts in time to the music.
- Encourage the children to create their own minibeast transient art by adding a selection of the following resources to an activity tray, such as: bottle tops, buttons of differing sizes, pom-poms, lolly sticks, cotton wool, pipe cleaners, feathers, stones, glass beads, plastic bottles, corks, cardboard tubes and glass pebbles. Ideally, a mixture of green, white, black, red yellow and orange loose parts.
- Add 'The Snail' picture by Henri Matisse alongside squares of different coloured tissue paper to inspire the children to create their own snail collage pictures



- Provide paper and pencils for the children to create observational drawings of any minibeasts they see. Show the children videos of minibeasts and discuss how the minibeasts move. Play music and encourage the children to move like the different minibeasts in time to the music.

Investigate:

- Work together to create a minibeast hotel outside. Discuss what minibeasts like to eat and where they like to live. For example, somewhere dark. You could use tissue boxes, cardboard tubes, etc.
- Embark on an exciting real minibeast hunt. This [Minibeast Hunt Adult Input Plan and Resource Pack](#) may come in handy!
- Incorporate honey into a snack during snack time. You may like to make honey sandwiches with the children. Show the children the honey; discuss where it comes from and which minibeast helps to make it.
- Inspire children's curiosity with this wonderful [Make Your Own Wormery Outdoor Activity!](#)
- Talk to the children about homes and habitats; how our homes have what we need in them, such as food, shelter, etc. Talk about how minibeasts need that too.
- Add a selection of different materials to a tray, such as foil, cotton wool, cardboard tubing and shells. Ask the children to decide which would be the best material to use to create a snail's shell.
- Create a 'minibeast interest table' and encourage the children to add their own photos and pictures.
- Use a magnifying glass (there are apps available and some phones have this in their settings). Take a close look at different minibeasts – discuss the patterns you see on e.g. shells of snails. Can you re-create this pattern?
- Explore the official 'Superworm' website here to find out more about the characters in the book and the author:

<https://axelscheffler.com/books-with-julia-donaldson/superworm>

Developing Independence.

It is very important for your child's development that they begin to complete tasks independently.

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Start small and make sure that you have plenty of time so that you and your child don't feel rushed. Here are some ideas of tasks that your child can complete independently whilst at home. Choose one to focus on each day:

- Tidying up their toys – try putting some of your favourite music on while you do it. Here's the song we use during tidy up time at nursery.

<https://safeYouTube.net/w/xPXD>

- Create a fruit snack area. Encourage children to help wash and prepare the fruit for you to eat. Pouring their own drink.
- Getting dressed by themselves in the mornings or undressed in the evening. Find a designated place to put clothes when finished.
- Set the table and clear dishes away.
- Ask an adult how you can help for 10 minutes. Or set a timer and find something to clean, wipe, or put away until the alarm sounds.
- Choose their own activity from the suggestions above.