

LEARNING PREVIEW

Heath Class - Spring Term 2

Maths week - bees and wasps

22/02/16 - 11/03/16

How our learning will link to our children's lives, interests and experiences

Thank you for encouraging your children to send such interesting items for show and tell. Thanks to looking at a wasps' nest and a daffodil on two separate days, the children have decided they would like to know about bees and wasps. We have decided that as a class, we are going to figure out how honey is made. Remember to resist the temptation to give your child the answer. This coincides wonderfully with Maths Week as we will get to look at shape, space and symmetry through our theme.

Our role-play area will be transformed into a shop with as many 'real' experiences as possible so please remember to send any **copper coins** to school with your child. Also, if you have any old handbags, purses, wallets or empty containers for 'stock' that you do not use any more, Heath class would love them.

How our learning will link to the wider world

- We will begin by looking at the shape and structure of the wasps' nest and comparing it to a bees' nest using the correct language of shape e.g. straight sides, hexagon and symmetry.
- We will also look at the structure of the bee and the wasp and I will introduce the language associated with an insects' anatomy e.g. head, thorax, abdomen, wing, eye, leg.
- We will then discuss why we think the nest is designed the way it is and what the wasps and bees use the different sections for. *Why is a wasps' nest the same as a bees' nest? What do they use the different parts for? Where would we find a bee's nest? How do bees make their nest?*
- Then I will pose the question 'How is honey made?'
- Once again, please do not to give your child the answers to these questions but rather discuss them together. If your child offers a theory, challenge it in conversation. 'That sounds really interesting but how would that happen?' 'Can you explain that a little more?'

Books - Books, particularly non-fiction to do with bees and wasps are a wonderful way to encourage your child to do their own research. Just try to ensure the books have lots of photographs that will help your child develop and defend some theories.

Sing-a-long with us!

10 Little Honey bees

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7oiLU3jQH-E>

Buzz buzz honey bee

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pehh2bxRI3o>

Ideas

As we delve deeper into the topic, encourage your child to make a bee or wasp at home, ensuring the three body parts are present. A toilet roll insert and some card are all that is needed.

REMEMBER

Maths is all around us. Point out shapes and patterns and numbers to your child whenever you get a chance. Count as many things as you can, steps from the garden to the front door, socks in the laundry, books on the book shelf. All this helps develop your child's fluency and confidence with number.

Collect coppers - 1p's and 2p's and bring them into school on Monday 22nd February for Maths Week, thank you!

Come and visit our Heath class shop on Wednesday 2nd March at 8:50am and 12:15pm.