

## Things to do at home...

- ◇ Have a mini-beast hunt.
- ◇ Try pond dipping.
- ◇ Take turns to name an animal for each letter of the alphabet.
- ◇ Make an animal sock puppet.
- ◇ How many animals can you name with four legs?  
Wings? A shell?  
Nocturnal animals?
- ◇ Visit the library and find out 5 fantastic facts about your favourite animal.

Please pop in and see any of our Early Years staff if you have any queries or you would like to help in some way!

Some useful websites:

- <http://www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies/stories/theme/animals/page/1>
- Visit the National Geographic Kids Zone;  
<http://kids.nationalgeographic.co.uk/kids/animals/creaturefeature/>
- <http://resources.woodlands-junior.kent.sch.uk/besmart/animals.html>
- <http://tuxpaint.org/>

**Please remember to be a safe and responsible internet user, have a look at the sites below for more information.**

- \* [http://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/5\\_7/](http://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/5_7/)
- \* <http://www.bbc.co.uk/webwise/topics/safety-and-privacy/internet-safety-for-kids>

**This half term we  
are thinking  
about...**

# Animals



***Early Years Topic  
Booklet  
Spring***

Every half term the children in our Nursery and Reception classes develop their skills through our cross curricular topic and integrated sessions.

This half term we will be learning all about...

## Animals!

*'It seems to me that the natural world is the greatest source of excitement; the greatest source of visual beauty; the greatest source of intellectual interest. It is the greatest source of so much in life that makes life worth living.'*

*David Attenborough*

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Through our play we will be exploring some of our favourite and not-so-favourite animals!

Creatures with legs!

Creatures that swim!

Creatures that fly!

Creatures that slither!

We have planned our learning journey together, sharing our ideas about the exciting things that we would like to learn more about.

We will be learning through the seven areas of our curriculum.

### Personal, Social and Emotional Development

- ◇ Circle time—caring for animals.
- ◇ Animal charades.
- ◇ How we are the same but different.

### Communication and Language

- ◇ Role-play - the vets.
- ◇ Animal hot seating, guess who?
- ◇ Story sequencing, The Very Hungry Caterpillar.
- ◇ Making our own animal facts information booklets.

### Physical Development

- ◇ Animal races.
- ◇ Building animal dens.

### Literacy

- ◇ A letter to the zoo! Dear Zoo!
- ◇ Animal alliteration.
- ◇ Finding out about animals through non-fiction books.
- ◇ Animal alphabet!

### Mathematics

- ◇ Sorting animals, explaining our own criteria.
- ◇ Animal addition/subtraction - problem solving.
- ◇ 3d shape animals.

### Understanding The World

- ◇ Mini-beast hunting!
- ◇ Finding out about animal habitats.
- ◇ Understanding animal life-cycles, frogs and butterflies.
- ◇ A visit from the 'animal man'.

### Expressive Arts and Design

- ◇ Animal rhythms.
  - ◇ Carnival of the Animals, movement and dance.
  - ◇ Creating animal masks and costumes.
  - ◇ Designing and making box animals.
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