

Nursery Minibeasts

Curriculum Area – Foundation -The World Around Us

Programme Objectives

1. Children will increase their knowledge of minibeasts and the differences and similarities that exist.
2. Children will understand the need to respect and care for minibeasts.

Programme Outline

Wall displays and puppets are used to introduce the topic of minibeasts – ‘creepy crawlies’ that are found in the forest/garden.

Children participate through the story ‘The Very Hungry Caterpillar’ which explains the butterfly lifecycle.

Break

Group 1 – Children make their own minibeasts out of clay and natural materials and have the choice to participate in a variety of other indoor activities e.g. investigating a wormery and snail habitat, minibeast jigsaws, reading corner, minibeast puppet area etc. All activities encourage children to express and develop creativity and interaction with each other.



Group 2 - Minibeast hunt in the forest using bug boxes and other investigative equipment.

Circle Time – The day is concluded with children being given the chance to speak about the day and to talk about friendships developed and the fun they had.

Programme learning outcomes

1. Children will increase their knowledge and identification skills of mini beasts
2. Children will create their own mini beast using clay and natural materials
3. Children will have met a friend from another school.

Forest Wildlife - Nursery

Curriculum Area – The World Around Us/Personal Development and Mutual Understanding

Programme Objectives

1. Children will understand the need to respect and care for our environment.
2. Children begin to realise how they relate to other children e.g. by building friendships.

Programme Outline

Welcome children and arrange into new mixed groups or pre-existing groups. Children are given an overview of the programme. This programme focuses on how the forest is a place for animals to live and how we must respect their environment.

Activity 1 – Through actions children are encouraged to join in with the story, 'We're Going on a Bear Hunt'

Break - The group is split into two and switch activities when finished.

Activity 2 - Using pictures as clues the children go on a forest trail to look for the animals hiding in the forest.



Activity 3 – ‘**Indoor structured play**’ - Children are provided with an opportunity to create a forest picture with natural material. Social skills are developed through various games and fun activities.

Programme Outcomes

1. Children will learn that we must show respect to all living things e.g. forest animals
2. Each child will create a forest picture using a variety of materials
3. Children will have an opportunity to build friendships, share and take turns and co-operate with each other.

Planting and Growing – Nursery

Curriculum Area – The World Around Us/Personal Development and Mutual Understanding

Programme Objectives

1. Children will begin to understand the need to respect and care for plants
2. Children will explore the importance of water in the natural environment

Programme Outline

Welcome children and arrange into new mixed groups or pre-existing groups.

Introduction – Facilitator and children discuss the use of water at home, by animals and by plants. We also talk about the pond and river at Parkanaur and what can be found in it.

Break

The group is split into two and switch activities when finished.

Activity 1 – Children have the opportunity to play with a wide range of stimulating resources e.g. painting table (water patterns), music table, jigsaws, drama area, investigating table (experiment with floating and sinking objects) etc.



Activity 2 – Children participate in outdoor activities in the ‘Secret Garden’. Activities include – bubble blowing, water painting, weeding area and planting area (each child pots their own plant).

Conclusion – The day finishes with ‘Action Rhymes’ and a brief circle time where children have the chance to talk about what they learnt from the day.

Programme Outcomes

1. Children learn about the uses and the importance of water.
2. Each child creates their own water picture
3. Children develop basic outdoor skills (using gardening tools, seed planting etc.)