



Reception Home Learning Letter



Week Beginning 18th May



Topic: Bees

Phonics

Following recent government updates, we are working hard on a possible return to school plan. With this in mind we would like your child to begin keeping a daily diary. This will be the perfect opportunity for them to develop their phonics and writing skills.

Remember spelling is not something to be focussed on at this time. You should be encouraging your child to hear the sounds within words and write them in a way that resembles this. For example, were they to attempt writing 'gardening', it may be represented as g-ar-d-n-i-n. The expectation is that by the end of Reception, children are writing sentences independently in this way. Therefore they should not be too concerned on how to spell a word. Confidence and fluidity in writing is the skill to focus on.

We would like them to write a minimum of one sentence per day explaining what they have been up to. For an additional challenge, encourage your child to use the conjunction (joining word) 'and' to create a more detailed sentence. Don't forget those capital letters, spaces and a full stop.

If/when the children return this academic year, we will be getting them to share their diaries in class.

Before writing please remember to flash the Phase 3 (and Phase 5 if they have become confident with Phase 3) sounds at them. It is useful to have a sound mat available when completing writing activities for your child to access.

Further to this, please explore the following resources on the Espresso website (see login details below):

1. Read the sentence (Phase 3 Polly)
2. Alien words (Phase 3)
3. Work through the videos under 'Kim's Phonics'. Activities linked to the videos can be accessed to the right of the videos.



Literacy:



1. Watch the video 'protecting bees' on Espresso. Create a poster that could be used at a protest to protect bees. Make sure it includes a written statement explaining why bees should be saved.
2. Can you make a list of words that rhyme with bee? Encourage your child to think of words ending with the 'ee' digraph. This is a great opportunity to explore the 'ee' sound family (ee can be made of ee, ea or y at the end of the word).
Use these rhyming words to create a poem all about bees.
3. Imagine you are a bee. Write a recount of your day. You might include activities such as guarding the hive, searching for pollen filled flowers, doing the 'waggle dance' or making honey.
4. Create a fact file about bees. Remember to add labels to any diagrams and use adjectives when writing facts.

Maths:



Key Focus: Doubling and Halving

Watch Espresso video *Finding Doubles and Halves: Double Trouble*.

Please note: When completing the following worksheets, encourage your child to solve the problems practically at the same time. This can be done using small food items such as pasta or small toys. Complete the following attached worksheets:

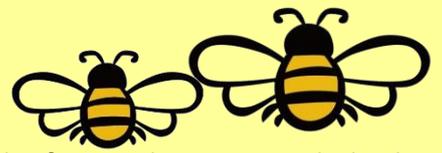
- 1) Minibeast doubling
- 2) Bee halving
- 3) Butterfly double to 20
- 4) Jungle double
- 5) Halving problem solving



Please also use this time as an opportunity to ensure your child is confident counting to 100. There are many videos available on YouTube to support this. Simply search 'count to 100 for kids'.



Science/The World

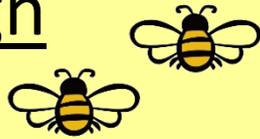


- Watch the Espresso clip **Hotel for Bees**. Together with your child think of ways that you can help the bees. Download the PowerPoint **Making a Bee Hotel** from the Twinkl website and explore. Take your daily exercise and forage resources that could be used to create your own bee hotel. Place it outside for a few days before observing the changes. Use the recording sheet attached to monitor changes.
- Use the Twinkl website to explore the following PowerPoint presentations with your child:
 - 1) Honeybees PowerPoint
 - 2) All About the Life Cycle of a Bee PowerPoint
- Complete the Bees and Pollination experiment (see attached). This is a fun and delicious experiment!
- Using the Espresso website, watch the **British Bees under Threat** video.
- Create a pair of bee wings (see physical development section). Hide the bee fact cards (attached) around your garden or home. Encourage your child to fly to the fact cards and explore together.
- Watch YouTube channel SciShow Kids video **Busy Bees**.

Expressive



Arts & Design



- Look at the picture of the bee attached. Complete an observational drawing of the bee. Encourage your child to notice the tiniest of details. Watch YouTube video *'Critique and feedback – the story of Austin's Butterfly'* with your child. Look at their drawing and critique the work. Encourage your child to redraw the bee image taking on board the changes.
- Watch YouTube video *What's the waggle dance? And why do honey bees do it?* Together with your child make up your own Waggle Dance to the song *Do the Waggle Dance!* (Available on YouTube).
- Can you turn a toilet roll tube or paper plate into a bee?

Physical Development

- Use tools and equipment to make honey biscuits (see recipe).
- Make a pair of bee wings using recyclable materials or natural objects (cling film works well when attached to a made frame). Use these for the science activity with the bee fact cards.
- Help your child develop their cutting skills by completing the bee cutting worksheet.
- Look at the Goldfield YouTube channel and complete the three *PE with Miss Mabbitt* videos.

Finally...

Espresso Login Information:

www.discoveryeducation.co.uk

Login: Select the Espresso option.

Username: student15949

Password: buttercup

Remember to keep checking the Goldfield YouTube channel.

We will be sharing more Story Time videos next week.

