



# Broomhill First School



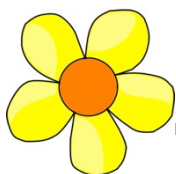
This half term's theme for the Big Owls is

## Down at the Bottom of the Garden

Children will explore the outdoors as they search at the bottom of our garden...

Who knows what they might find!

June - July 2021

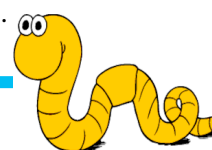


### Understanding the World

Children will learn about the natural world around them. They will hunt for minibeasts and learn about their life cycles. Children will observe insects in a bug laboratory and we will watch some real caterpillars transform into butterflies in our classroom before we set them free in the garden. Children will also make observations of plants, name their parts and discuss how they change as they grow.

### Mathematics

Maths is all around us - Children will be given opportunities to use numbers around the classroom and outdoors everyday. As children search for minibeasts, they will collect data by completing tally charts and counting the total. They will count spots on a ladybird and use butterfly symmetry to help remember some doubling facts. Children will learn about capacity as they fill plant pots with soil and they will compare the length of worms using good vocabulary and different units.



### Communication, Language & Literacy

Children will study the author Eric Carle as they explore a range of his stories such as 'The Very Hungry Caterpillar' and 'The Very Busy Spider'. Story sacks will be available so that children can retell the stories with props. We will also use Talk 4 Writing skills to make story maps and retell the story of the Hungry Caterpillar before making up our own new versions. Children will also have fun writing minibeast riddles as they give clues to guess their creature and they will keep a diary to observe changes in our classroom caterpillars. They will also participate in daily phonics activities to extend their reading and writing skills.



### Physical Development

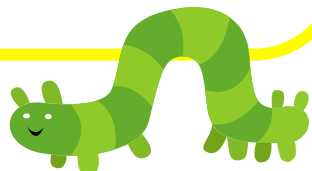
To develop gross motor skills, children will move and stretch like different insects. They will lift and carry logs and equipment to make bug hotels.

Fine motor skills will be encouraged through activities such as sorting seeds with tweezers and fingers, weaving spider webs and rolling play dough worms.

**Please ensure your child comes to school every Friday in PE UNIFORM.**

### Expressive Arts and Design

Children will learn about famous artists as they recreate 'The Snail' by Matisse, or 'Sunflowers' by Vincent Van Gogh. They will make lots of minibeast crafts and try out new art techniques. Songs and rhymes will be used to support knowledge of minibeasts. Children will be able to use their imaginations as they engage in role play in the garden centre, the bug lab, or the fairy garden.



### Personal, Social and Emotional Development

Children will be encouraged to care for living things. They will work in teams to get a job done just like ants and bees. They will discuss feelings in relation to different stories such as 'The Bad Tempered Ladybird'.

**Children will be involved in transition activities to help them get ready for their new Year 1 class.**

Unfortunately due to the current climate, some of our summer events and trips cannot go ahead as usual. Watch this space for alternatives for the children in school to make their last term in Big Owls fun and special.

Remember to use Class Dojo to share your child's learning. Change over to the child account to add photos/videos to their portfolio.



**ClassDojo**

### Lunch

Due to a government initiative, school lunches for reception children are free this year. Having a school lunch provides excellent learning opportunities for trying new foods, using cutlery and developing table manners. A menu is available on our school website so you can choose daily options in advance. If you would prefer to provide a healthy packed lunch instead, then please let us know.



### Helping at Home

**Looking** - Hunt for minibeasts in your own gardens or out at the park. Look under rocks and logs or dig in the soil.

**Gardening** - Encourage your child to help you look after plants in the garden or plant a seed in a pot to look after indoors. Talk about how it changes as it grows.

**Reading** - Please read regularly with your child by using their sound cards, word cards and books. Make a note in their reading record to let me know how they get on. Share your child's library book together and remember to return it each Friday to get a new one.

**Maths** - Measure the length of things at home. Find shorter/longer things. Measure distances by counting footsteps and try to estimate the number of footsteps first.

### Warm Weather

- Send your child's **water bottle** into school with fresh water each day.
- Children can bring a **sunhat** to wear outdoors.
- Please apply **sun cream** to your child **before** they come to school. A named bottle of sun cream can be kept in their drawer to reapply at lunch time if necessary.



Thank you very much for reading this information letter.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

**Mrs Haves**

