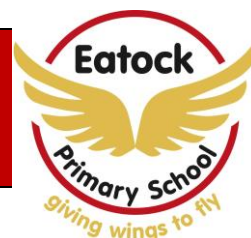


Reception Curriculum Newsletter



Welcome back! We hope you have all had a lovely Easter break.

Our theme for this half term is **Growing**.

Each week we will be linking the children's learning to the theme of growing, exploring life cycles and providing real experiences to help the children make observations and support their new learning.

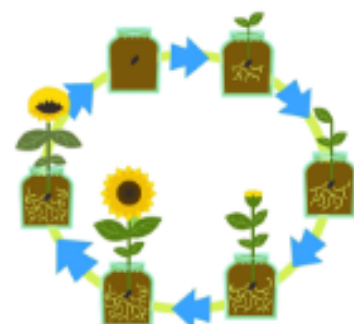
Week 1 – The Lifecycle of a Butterfly

Week 2 – Jack and the Beanstalk

Week 3 – The Lifecycle of a Frog

Week 4 – The Lifecycle of a Duck

Week 5 – The Lifecycle of a Bee



Week 1 - The Lifecycle of a Butterfly

Key Vocabulary of the Week

This term, we will be learning all about the lifecycle of a butterfly, linked to the story *The Very Hungry Caterpillar*. The children will be:

- Sharing the story *The Very Hungry Caterpillar*
- Finding out about the lifecycle of a caterpillar
- Making repeating and symmetrical patterns
- Taking delivery of some caterpillars
- Observing the caterpillars and discussing their changes
- Discussing healthy and unhealthy foods
- Taking part in food tasting and making healthy smoothies
- Writing a recipe to make a smoothie

You can support your child by trying to use or talk about the meaning of these words at home:

The Lifecycle – caterpillar, butterfly, cocoon, chrysalis, pupa, metamorphosis, emerging, antennae

Food – salami, watermelon, pickle, cherry pie

Healthy Living – healthy, unhealthy, ingredients, recipe

Week 2 - Jack and the Beanstalk

Key Vocabulary of the Week

This week, we will be learning all about the traditional tale *Jack and the Beanstalk*, linking our learning to growing and plants.

The children will be:

- Sharing the story *Jack and the Beanstalk*
- Finding out about where milk comes from (this will be observed on our farm trip)
- Receiving a delivery of 'magic beans'
- Reading and writing instructions for how to plant beans
- Planting the beans and watching them grow
- Learning about what plants need to grow and the different parts of a plant.

You can support your child by trying to use or talk about the meaning of these words at home:

Plants and Growing – beanstalk, seed, roots, stem, shoot, flower, leaves, pod, soil, compost, trowel, seedling

Farm – milk, udders, express

The Story – bellowed, harp, trade

Week 3 -The Lifecycle of a Frog	Vocabulary
This week, we will be learning all about the lifecycle of a frog, using information books and real-life observations to support our understanding. The children will be: • Using information books to find out about the lifecycle of a frog • Learning new vocabulary linked to frogs • Observing frogs living in the pond in the Wildlife Area/Caterpillar Garden • Pond dipping in the Wildlife Area • Sequencing pictures of the frog lifecycle	You can support your child by trying to use or talk about the meaning of these words at home: The Lifecycle – frogspawn, tadpole, froglet, frog Habitats – pond, water Pond Creatures – pond skater, water boatman, newt, water snail, net
Week 4 -The Lifecycle of a Duck	Vocabulary
This week, we will be learning all about the lifecycle of a duck, using real experiences and information books to support our understanding. The children will be: • Taking delivery of some incredible eggs • Ordering the lifecycle of a duck • Using information books to find out about the lifecycle of a duck • Observing the eggs and caring for what hatches, discussing rules for looking after animals • Preparing duck-friendly food for our walk to Eatock Lodge	You can support your child by trying to use or talk about the meaning of these words at home: The Lifecycle – eggs, hatch, hatchlings, incubator Animals – duck, duckling, cygnet, swan, mallard, moorhen, coot, heron Features – webbed feet, beak, feathers, wings, waterproof, down
Week 5 - The Lifecycle of a Bee	Vocabulary
This week, we will be learning all about bees, their lifecycle and why they are so important to our environment. The children will be: • Using information books to find out about bees • Finding out why bees are important for our environment • Learning about the lifecycle of a bee • Finding out about the hive and the different jobs bees do • Tasting honey • Going on a walk to Eatock Lodge to feed the ducks (Monday 18th May)	You can support your child by trying to use or talk about the meaning of these words at home: The Lifecycle – bee, larva, pupa Nature and Plants – nectar, pollen, pollinator, roots, stem, flower The Hive – hive, honey, royal jelly, swarm, species
Sponsored Bounce	
On Friday 8th May, children in Early Years will be taking part in a Sponsored Bounce to help raise funds for our <i>Incredible Eggs</i> experience. Further information and a sponsor form will be sent home shortly.	
Snack Payment	
If you would like your child to have a healthy morning snack, such as crackers, breadsticks, pancakes, in addition to the free fruit provided, please make a payment of £28.50 on MCAS. . The closing date for payment is Thursday 30th April. Thank you.	

Eatock Lodge Walk

As part of our topic on growing, we have planned a walk to Eatock Lodge on **Monday 18th May**. We will be walking from school, wearing high-visibility jackets, to feed the ducks at the pond and observe the nature around the lodge. During the walk, we will also be talking about road safety and how to keep safe. Please could you also discuss this with your child, helping them to understand the importance of staying together, listening to adults and keeping safe on our walk.

Farm Trip

As part of our learning this term, we have arranged a trip to **Smithills Farm** on **Thursday 14th May**. Please can children arrive promptly on this day. The classroom door will open slightly earlier at **8:30am**. Children will need to wear **full school uniform** and bring a waterproof coat or jacket, as well as a sunhat depending on the weather. Please ensure **sun cream is applied before school**; this will need to be a full-day protection sun cream as it cannot be reapplied during the trip. If your child is bringing a packed lunch from home, please send it in a labelled carrier bag so it can be disposed of after use. If your child has a school dinner, school will provide a packed lunch. Please do not send any additional drinks or snacks, as these will be provided. No money is not required as we will not be visiting the shop.

Sun Protection

As we approach the summer months, we would like to remind you that children in Early Years have access to outdoor provision throughout the school day and therefore spend a large portion of their time outside.

We strongly encourage children to come to school wearing sun protection and a sun hat. Due to safeguarding, staff are unable to apply sun cream, so this must be applied at home before the start of the school day.

Please be aware that some sun creams only protect for up to two hours, so we recommend using a **full-day protection sun cream** where possible.

Please also ensure your child brings a water bottle that can be refilled throughout the day.

Homework

Homework is set every **Friday** and must be submitted to school, via Tapestry, the following **Wednesday**.

If you need any support with homework, please do not hesitate to telephone the school office, before or after school, to speak to a member of staff – we will be more than happy to help you with this.

Outdoor Education

Our Wildlife lesson will take continue to take place, **Tuesday** mornings. Please ensure your child has warm, waterproof clothing and wellies in school for the duration of this half term. Please label all items of clothing/footwear.

Outdoor Education clothing is sent home, to be cleaned, at the end of each half term.

PE Kits

Our PE lessons this term will be on a **Friday morning**. Please ensure your child has a PE Kit in school, this consists of a red t-shirt, and black shorts, with black pumps. Please write your child's name in all items of clothing/footwear.

If your child wears earrings, we ask these are removed for PE or covered by a plaster **before** coming to school. Long hair should be tied up and children will be asked to place headbands or large bows in their PE bags when they get changed. This is for health and safety reasons. Thank you.

Reading Books

Please ensure your child returns their reading book on their assigned reading day. Please give your child a gentle reminder when their reading book is in their bag and encourage them to put it in the reading box, so we can read together during the day.

To support your child with their reading, please encourage your child to read their book **every night** for around 10 minutes and sign the yellow diary with a small comment about how they are progressing with their reading.

As you are aware, every Friday children who have read at home and have returned their reading book to school will receive a reading treat.

Thank you for your continued support,

Mrs Gregory