

# Kerr Mackie Primary School

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Classes: Reception (Willow & Elm)  
Taught by: Mrs Watson & Miss Rhodes

Term: Summer 1      Topic: Minibeasts



## Personal, Social & Emotional

In this half term we will be pursuing the theme of 'Going for Goals'. We will continue to encourage children to reflect on themselves as individuals, particularly their strengths as learners and how they learn most effectively. We will consider setting ourselves a realistic goal and what we can do to achieve it.

At the end of our topic we shall be presenting an exhibition of our work and children will be encouraged to talk about their knowledge and present their work to you as visitors to our exhibition. This will involve working towards several goals which will be discussed with each child.



## Communication, Language & Literacy

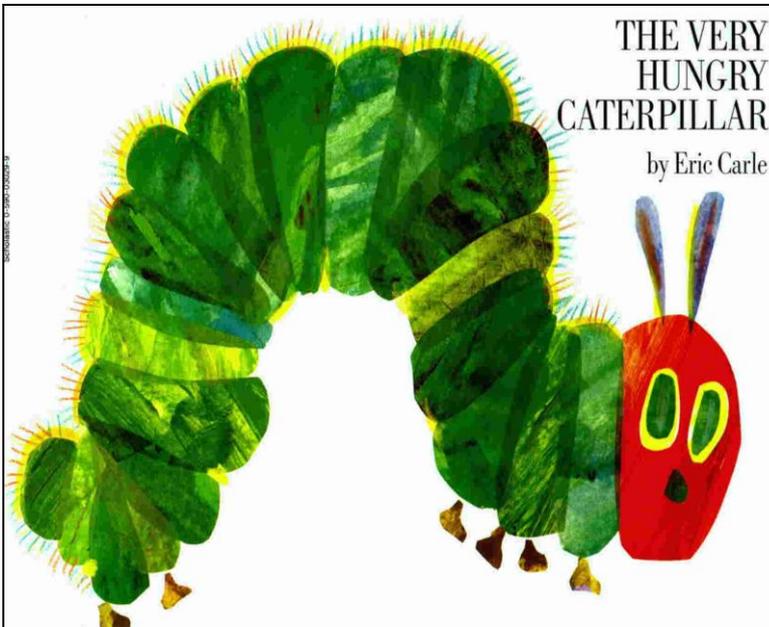
This half term we are continuing to use the 'Talk for Writing' programme and use the three week cycle of immersion, innovation and invention of a story. The stories introduced this half term are:

*The Very Lazy Ladybird and The Very Hungry Caterpillar.*

In Phonics we are consolidating the digraphs (two letters which produce one sound) these are ch, sh, th, ng, oo, ee, ar, ow, ai, er, or, oi, ur, oa and trigraphs - igh, air, ear and ure. Children are continuing to do well learning the high-frequency words which are sent home regularly. Please help your child to practise these, as this experience will greatly help them with their reading skills.

Children are learning to write by applying their phonic skills and writing down the sounds that they hear when repeating their sentences aloud. Children are learning to apply the high frequency words that they have learnt at home and include them in their sentences.

We are encouraging children to verbalise sentences using an interesting sentence start e.g. I



think this is, This small stone is... and use some descriptive words.

We are now introducing some punctuation e.g. a capital letter at the start of a sentence, a full stop at the end and to use some finger spaces.

When children are reading we encourage children to re-read a sentence for understanding of the text and develop some fluency. We want children to be able to talk about what they have read.

### Mathematics

We will continue to focus on counting reliably a group of objects up to 20; recognising and ordering numerals 1 to 20; finding 1 more or 1 less than a number from 1 to 20 and beyond; finding the total number of objects in two groups by counting them all and finding out how many objects are left when a group have been removed. We are also learning to add two groups by counting on from the largest number and to subtract by counting back from the largest number. In practical activities and discussion, we will learn to describe how to add and subtract using the appropriate vocabulary. We are also learning to estimate how many objects can be seen, and to confirm by counting groups up to 20. Finally we are learning to count in two's, ten's, five's, and to double and halve numbers to 20 and beyond.

In the area of Shape, Space and Measure, we will continue to reinforce telling the time and handling money. We shall be discussing the properties of 2D and 3D shapes and learning to apply the appropriate language to describe them.



### Understanding the World

In this area children will be encouraged to comment and ask questions about the natural world. We shall be exploring the natural environment to find a range of minibeast and learn information about them.

We shall be observing the growth of butterfly eggs in the classroom and follow their life cycle until their release outdoors.

We will be visiting Tropical World to observe a selection of insects and butterflies to further our knowledge of these creatures.



### Expressive Arts and Design

Children will be encouraged to explore different media and materials and be imaginative. Children will have the opportunity to create artwork using materials in 2D and 3D forms, with a particular focus on a minibeast theme. Children will be encouraged to select tools and techniques needed to shape, assemble and join materials they are using. Children will be encouraged to develop critique skills in being able to evaluate their own and other children's work in order to improve on their piece of artwork.

In role play children will be encouraged to be bug hunters and explore the environment!

### Physical Development

Children will be encouraged to develop different ways of moving in dance and gymnastics, and to develop skills handling small apparatus e.g. hoops, balls and beanbags. We will also be using the large apparatus e.g. stools, benches and mats. Children will be encouraged to climb onto and move across the apparatus using different parts of their bodies and jump off the apparatus using appropriate landing skills.

Physical development also includes looking at health and self-care. In this area we will be encouraging children to think about good practices in exercise, eating and hygiene, which contribute to good health.



Thank you for your continuing support.  
The Reception Team