

Ladybird Learning



w/b 22nd November 2021

This week we have continued with our wider curriculum theme of 'Our Colourful World'.

We have...

- Shared the story 'Handa's surprise', a story set in rural Kenya. We used our phonic skills to help us label the fruits we placed in our own baskets.
- Enjoyed watching a clip of Weaver birds from South Africa. These birds weave fabulous hanging nests out of grass. By weaving the grass together the structure holds firm and doesn't fall apart. We looked at how we humans also use weaving techniques to make things such as baskets and containers, then had a go at weaving with paper to decorate our fruit baskets. It was quite tricky!
- Focused on our careful counting skills in maths, as well as looking at the composition of numbers 4 and 5. We arranged 5 pebbles in different ways and looked to see which smaller groups of numbers we could spot (eg a 3 and a 2, a 2 and a 2 and a 1).
- Used the percussion instruments to keep a steady beat and played them whilst joining in a 'Call and Response' song from Ghana called 'Che che Kule'.
- Shown how confident we are becoming at forming the 'c' family of letters in our handwriting sessions- 'c', 'a', 'o', 'd', 'g'.
- Continued to practise our songs ready for our Christmas performance- your child will have brought home a note today to say what they will need for their part in the play. Please don't go and buy anything special for the play but if you have trouble finding anything please let us know asap.

Home Challenge



During our daily phonics sessions it has been lovely to see how confident many of our Ladybird Learners are becoming in sounding out and blending to read CVC words such as 'fog', 'hat' and 'sip' and in attempting to read complete sentences independently. They are doing a fabulous job and we would like to say a huge 'Thank you!' to all our parents and carers for your continued support in encouraging your child with their reading at home. We hope they are impressing you too!

This week's home challenge is one that will focus on tricky words. These are the words attached to your child's reading log book. (many will be bringing home new Phase 3 tricky words today!). Tricky words are much harder to learn as the children cannot rely on their decoding skills to sound out each letter and blend the sounds together. It just won't work! Instead, these words need to be learned through repetition in order that they can be recognised as a whole word on sight. Tricky words need to be practised frequently throughout the week. Turning this activity into a game makes the learning of tricky words a lot more interesting and enjoyable and ultimately will help your child become a more fluent reader.

This week invent your own game or activity that will help you learn those pesky tricky words. Maybe you could create a 'Bingo!' type game, a board game, a pairs game, a target game or even try out some real magic tricks to help you learn the words! If you like arts and crafts why not create pictures of each tricky word? Football mad learners could create a slalom course with the tricky words—each time you dribble the ball around a tricky word shout it out. Treasure hunts are a great way of spotting those tricky words or you could make a dark den- ask a grown up to hide the tricky words inside then get out a torch and go exploring. Which tricky words can you see?

There really is no end to the ways you can learn these words but they are important to learn. Have fun whichever way you learn them and don't forget to record what you did in your 'I can at home' books.



Need some inspiration?
Try out the following website:

<https://sightwords.com/sight-words/games/>