

Ladybird Learning



w/b 14th November 2022

This week we have continued with our wider curriculum theme of 'Light Fantastic!'. We have...

- Shared the story of 'Laura's Star' by Klaus Baumgart. In the story, Laura helped the fallen star to get back into the sky by tying it to a bunch of balloons. We thought of our own ideas to help the star return to the night sky and used the construction kits to build 3d models to help explain our ideas.
- Enjoyed listening to the story 'Katie and the Starry Night' by James Mayhew. Katie and her Grandma visit an Art Gallery and Katie goes on an adventure, jumping into the paintings by Vincent Van Gogh! We studied the painting 'Starry Night', looking at the shapes and patterns used to create the stars. We then had a go at making our own Starry Night artworks.
- Explored positional and directional language in our maths sessions. We used the words- next to/ in /on/ behind/ in front of/ in between/ near/ beside/ under/ over/ above—when playing a hide and seek game with our teddies. After listening to the story of 'Rosie's Walk' by Pat Hutchins, we created obstacles using the outdoor equipment and gave our partners instructions to travel across/ under/ through/ around and over them.
- Practised our colouring and cutting skills by making our own stars to make a wish on!
- Explored 'maps'. We looked at all kinds of different maps, including maps of the world, weather maps, maps of Folkestone, maps used to find your way around places such as a zoo and even treasure maps! We know that maps are really useful to help us find out where places are, or how to get from one place to another. We enjoyed creating our own maps.
- Learned a little about the people in our community who can help look after us and keep us healthy... doctors, nurses, paramedics, dentists and opticians. We shared our experiences of our visits to the doctors and dentists.

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 of our Ladybirds are now learning Phase 3 sounds and tricky words). 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/>

