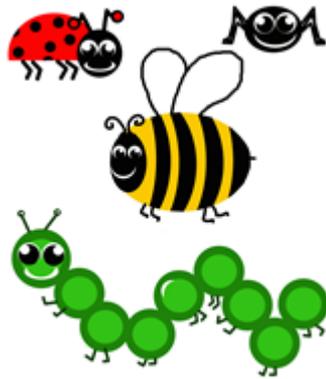


# St Andrew Class

## Summer Term 2019



Our topic this half term was  
"The Secret Garden".  
Next half term, we will be looking at  
"Our World".

In these topics the children will be learning about similarities and differences in relation to places, objects, materials and living things. They will talk about the features of their own immediate environment and how environments might vary from one to another. They make observations of animals and plants and explain why some things occur, and talk about changes.

### Questions to think about:

- What plants can we see around the school?
- What does a plant need to grow?
- How does a plant grow?
- What are the names of the flowers in my garden?

- What animals live in my garden?
- What animals live in my country?
- How are these the same or different to animals in other countries?
- How is my local area the same or different to other areas of the country?

### Spellings of the key words

**garden flower soil plant seed insect grow insect bug**

**stem roots leaf leaves caterpillar cocoon butterfly**

**animal living habitat wild tame country city similar different same**

**How you can help your child at home with these topics.**

- Helping your child to learn the names of common plants, insects and animals.
- Gardening with your child.
- Grow plants with your child. Observe and explore a range of seeds/bulbs.
- Visit garden nurseries and/or zoos.
- Visiting the local library to take out books that may be relevant to the topic (fiction or non-fiction).
- Talk about caring for animals.
- Search the internet to look at pictures of animals.

**We will be learning through play towards the Early Learning Goals.**

In maths, the children should be able to count reliably with numbers from one to 20, place them in order and say which number is one more or one less than a given number. Using quantities and objects, they will practice adding and subtracting two single-digit numbers and count on or back to find the answer. Through play and stories, they will solve problems, including doubling, halving and sharing. Please encourage them to look for numbers and shapes in the environment and use mathematical vocabulary such as more, less, fewer, altogether.

For ideas how to help your child, see the *Mastery in Maths* booklet on our class website page.

In reading, we will be teaching the children to read and understand simple sentences. They will be encouraged to use their developing knowledge of phonics to sound out unfamiliar words. They will also learn to read the common exception (tricky ) words by sight. There are lists of these in the reading journals. Please encourage them to look for environmental print, naming and sounding letters. The children will be encouraged to choose and talk about books that interest them.

It is very important that you read with your child every day, this should not be a chore but an opportunity to spend time sharing books that you can enjoy together. Please also read stories to your child regularly, you are welcome to come in early in the mornings to read in our school library where we have a wide selection of books.

Similarly, in writing, they will be supported in holding pencils correctly in order to write correctly formed letters in response to sounds. Please encourage your child to draw and write at home e.g. lists, messages, notes, postcards, thank you letters. Your child should see you writing regularly so that they better understand the purpose of writing.

**It is particularly important in these early years, that we foster a love of learning and enquiry in our youngest children. Building relationships, working cooperatively, playing imaginatively and making positive relationships is a vital part of these first years of school. Thank you for supporting us in developing this love of learning.**

If you'd like to find out more about the Early Learning Goals, please look for the document on our class page of the school website.

**We always welcome parent/carers into our classroom so if you would like to volunteer or share any expertise related to our topic then please speak to the class teacher or the school office.**

**Don't forget to login to Tapestry to find out what your child has been learning in the EYFS.**