

Reception - Sunshine & Sunflowers



In the Sunshine & Sunflowers project, children will be learning all about growing. They will plant their own sunflower seeds and watch them grow. They will learn about the different parts of a plant and use the correct vocabulary to describe them. They will also explore the local environment and go on bug hunts and flower-finding missions. The children will learn to identify some minibeasts such as woodlice, ladybirds, dragonflies, butterflies and many more. They will also be learning all about lifecycles and will order the life cycle of a butterfly. We will observe the changes that happen within the environment as we head into summer.

Key Questions		Vocabulary	
- Can you name 3 parts of a plant? - What do plants need to grow? - What is the life cycle of a caterpillar/frog? - What is your favourite minibeast and why? - What type of minibeasts do we see a lot during the summer? - What changes do you notice between spring and summer?		stem	A part of the plant that supports the leaves and connects to the roots.
		petal	The colourful part of a plant.
		roots	The part of the plant that anchors it in place and helps take in food and water.
		plant	A living thing that grows from the soil.
		summer	The season between spring and autumn.
Learning Links		Planned Stories	
Understanding the World The children will understand some important processes and changes in the natural world around them, including the seasons. They will begin to learn that all living things have a life cycle. They will be able to talk about the parts of a plant and what plants need to grow and be healthy.		<i>My Magnificent Jellybean Tree</i> by Maura Finn <i>Tiny Seed</i> by Eric Carle <i>Tad</i> by Benji Davies <i>Mad about Minibeasts</i> by Giles Andreae <i>The Extraordinary Gardener</i> by Sam Boughton	
Creating with Materials We will be completing a number of creative projects throughout the half term. We will be mixing colours to make new colours and create observational drawings of sunflowers.		Prior Learning Links	
Design technology The children will be working on their measuring skills when they make their own 'Oaty Flapjack'.		In Autumn 1, we explored our local environment and this half term we will build on that by taking the children on a local minibeast hunt. In Autumn 2, we learnt about the four seasons and this half term we will look specifically at the changes occurring between spring and summer.	