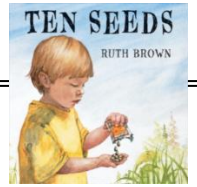
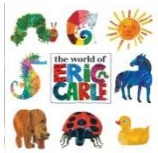
Nursery: Summer 1: In The Garden

Key questions: What do plants need to grow?
How do caterpillars change?
What minibeasts can we find?



Communication and Language

Key Vocabulary:
Caterpillar, butterfly, cocoon / chrysalis, plant, seed minibeast, nature, tiny, perfect



Spend some time talking with your child about these words and what they mean. You could go on a nature walk together, perhaps visiting a park or woodland area. Look out for signs of spring such as flowers, blossom, buds on trees, insects, and other minibeasts.

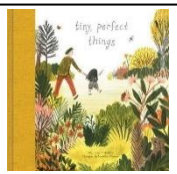
Hooks / Special Events

- Class caterpillars arriving in the first week
- Planting sunflowers
- Stay and Play session for parents and carers – focusing on outdoor learning and our topic *'In the Garden'*
- More details to follow

Literacy

Our key texts this half term will be:

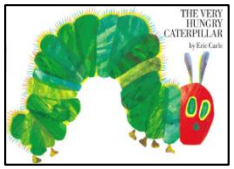
- The Very Hungry Caterpillar
- Ten Seeds
- The Tiny Perfect Things
- Non-fiction books about plants and minibeasts



We will also go on a *The Tiny Perfect Things* walk and create our own book inspired by what we see.
Reading to your child is so important. Please share both stories and information books together and talk about what you read. You might enjoy exploring books about plants and minibeasts at home too!

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

My Happy Minds – *Relate*
We will be developing our understanding of feelings by learning to name them. We will also look in the mirror and talk about how we are feeling. Please join us for our Stay and Play session, which will focus on outdoor learning. More details will follow soon.



Understanding the World

People, Culture and Communities
We will be learning about our school grounds, including exploring the forest school area. We will look closely at the plants and animals that live there and observe the natural environment around us.

Past and Present
We will reflect on changes within our own lives and think about events that have happened in our school year so far. We will observe the changes in the life cycle of a caterpillar and talk about past events in the stories we read.

The Natural World
We will continue to notice seasonal changes as signs of spring begin to appear. We will observe how the weather changes and what happens to plants and trees. We will learn about the life cycle of a caterpillar and explore what plants need to grow by planting seeds and caring for them.

Maths

In Maths we will be:

- Consolidating our knowledge of numbers to 5
- Learning the days of the week
- Sequencing the day and daily activities
- Understanding positional language (e.g. under, next to, behind)
- Adding one more
- Taking one away
- Ordering numerals to 5

At home, you could talk to your child about what day of the week it is, what day it was yesterday, and what day it will be tomorrow.

Physical Development
We will continue to develop our fine and gross motor skills both indoors and outdoors. The children will take part in activities that strengthen fine motor control, build finger muscles, and support the development of a secure tripod grip. We will also work on building confidence in moving our bodies in a variety of ways.

At home you could encourage your child to be more independent with toileting and handwashing and practice putting on and fastening their own shoes and coats.

Expressive arts: Our Artist Inspiration this half term is the Hungry Caterpillar illustrations Eric Carle.
Songs: Incy Wincy Spider, Lady bird Ladybird, Wiggly Woo,
Sing or listen to nursery rhymes with your child and ask them to do the actions.

How can you help at home?

- ***Read- Chat- Play***
- ***The best way to help your child with their learning is to read to them, talk to them (about everything you are doing and things around them) and play with them as much as you***
- ***Plant a seed, water it every day and watch it grow.***
- ***As always we will share pictures on dojo of our learning. Please add pictures to dojo or email to school. 5 Dojo points will be awarded for all pictures sent.***
  We would love to hear about your child's 'Wow' moments at home. We will be creating a special 'At Home' display to celebrate our home learning.