



# Ducklings and Goslings' News



## Happy New Year and welcome back.

We hope you had a wonderful Christmas and New Year and are now ready for the year ahead.

A big thank you for all your support with costumes for the Nativity. Although you were all unable to attend due to COVID restrictions, the children really did a fantastic job. We were very proud of them.

Our question for the term is:

### Why don't snakes have legs?

Reptiles are wild and wonderful creatures. Why don't snakes have legs? Why do chameleons change colour? We'll find out the answers to these questions and more in this fascinating project about reptiles.

This half term, we'll be visited by the wonderful "Jungle Jonathan" who will introduce us to some real-life reptiles. We'll create remarkable reptile artwork using a variety of drawing and painting materials. We'll look closely at the foods reptiles eat and have lots of fun playing with small world reptiles. Using musical instruments and actions, we'll recreate the movements of different reptiles. Find out more about further learning opportunities below.

#### You could:

visit a local pet shop to look at the different reptiles and foods on display. You could also use natural or recycled materials to create a reptile collage. Alternatively, you could make your own snakes by threading items onto a string. Can you count how many pieces you have used?

#### Reading Books -

It makes such a difference with their progress and confidence if you listen to your child read at home. Magazines, webpages, recipes books all count! There are at least 20 books on *Bug Club* ready for you to read together on your electronic devices at home. Thank you to those of you that have been doing so.

The school are still at the decision-making stage regarding sending reading books home.

#### Cold weather

In Reception we recognise that access to learning in the outdoor environment is vital to the children's all-round development and we encourage it on a daily basis. Please can you ensure that your child comes to school with suitable clothing. Thank you.

Uniform Please can you ensure that all uniform and PE kits is labelled. Thank you

#### School trips

We were really proud of how the children coped with their visit to The Hawk Conservancy last term. We have some very exciting trips and events planned up until the end of the summer term. If you would like to help on a trip, please let us know.

#### Please, please, please!

##### Your trash is our treasure

If you have any old tea sets, wooden boxes, photo frames, wicker baskets, interesting objects (an old phone, weighing scales, beads, bangles, buttons, binoculars- anything!) please send it our way- we can find a use for it.

We are trying to be eco-friendly so no plastic, thank you.

#### Milk

All children that are 4, receive free milk at breaktime.

Please check in book bags, for a letter regarding milk, near the time that your child turns 5 years old. It will inform you what needs to be done should you wish your child to continue receiving milk.



Here is the website link for "Jungle Jonathan". It will enable you to see some of the creatures that the children might be finding out about:

<https://www.jonathansjungleroadshow.co.uk/>

#### Tapestry

Please don't forget that Tapestry is a great way of showing us what you have been practising or learning at home. We love to see it. It can provide us with a great talking point, or direction for the children's learning, at school.



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<p><b>Why don't snakes have legs?</b></p> <p>Lines of enquiry and exploration</p>	<p><b>Personal Social and Emotional development</b> Spikey focus: Think things through</p> <p>The Selfish crocodile</p> <p>"Facing challenges"</p> <p>"Never giving up"</p> <p>"Obstacles and support"</p> <p>"Flight to the future"</p>	<p><b>Communication and Language</b></p> <p>Questioning</p> <p>Developing talk partner work</p> <p>Introducing new topic words – reptile, cold-blooded, carnivore, scaly</p> <p>Guess who games – reptiles</p>	<p><b>Physical development</b></p> <p>Move like a reptile - dance</p> <p>Small apparatus – beanbags, balls, scarves, cones</p> <p>Developing scissor skills</p>
<p><b>Maths</b></p> <p>Recognising four sided shapes and describing their properties.</p> <p>Comparing numbers to 5- bigger, smaller, equal.</p> <p>Composition of numbers 4 and 5 using a range of resources.</p> <p>Number bonds to 5 using songs and resources such as Numicon.</p> <p>Exploring mass and capacity.</p> <p>Exploring the numbers 6,7 and 8.</p> <p>Making pairs and combining two groups.</p>	<p><b>Literacy</b></p> <p>Linking sounds to letters, naming and sounding the letters of the alphabet</p> <p>Recognising Phase 3 key words and letter sounds. Moving onto "digraphs" – two letters, one sound.</p> <p>Listening to stories with increasing attention and recall: "The Very Greedy Python" "The Mixed Up Chameleon"</p> <p>Using phonic knowledge to write simple words and sentences.</p> <p>Simple fact files</p> <p>Matching rhyming words and pictures</p>	<p><b>Understanding the world</b></p> <p>Celebrations: New Year Chinese New Year</p> <p>E-safety</p> <p>Why do crocodiles lie with their mouths open? (Investigate)</p> <p>What is a reptile?</p> <p>Who eats who?</p> <p>Using a paint program on the computer.</p>	<p><b>Expressive Arts and Design</b></p> <p>Pattern and printing</p> <p>Music – using percussion instrument to represent movement of Reptiles</p>