Autumn 2 -

Why do animals hibernate?



Communication and Language

Children will develop their speaking and listening skills through questioning, discussions and learning new winter and hibernation vocabulary. They will talk about seasonal changes, explain their observations, answer questions about stories and share their ideas about what animals need to survive. We will also introduce Colourful Semantics to support children's understanding of who, what, where and what doing in sentences.

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

Through our Jigsaw lessons, children will explore the themes What Am I Good At?, I'm Special, I'm Me!, Families and Homes. They will develop confidence in talking about themselves, celebrate their strengths and learn about the importance of caring relationships. Cooperative activities such as den building and role play will encourage teamwork, resilience and problem-solving skills.

Physical Development

In PE, children will continue with Fundamentals Unit 2, developing their balance, coordination and movement skills. Inspired by our topic, they will move like different animals and take part in activities that build strength and agility. Fine motor skills will be developed through creative tasks, construction activities and winter-themed challenges.

PE and Forest school are on a Wednesday.

Literacy

Children will listen to and retell stories using props, sequence events and answer questions about what they have heard. They will explore both fiction and non-fiction texts about hibernation and animals. We will practise recalling key events, creating simple information pages and using new vocabulary to talk about what we have learned.

In Phonics we will be learning the following single sounds:

j, v, w, y, x, z, ch, th, ng, nk, sh

Please use the phonics home learning to practise these sounds as they are introduced.

Focus Texts: Room on the Broom, Bear snores on, It was a Dark, cold night, Winters sleep.

Understanding the World: This term, the children will be learning about hibernation and how animals survive during the cold winter months. We will explore which animals hibernate, where they sleep, and how they prepare for winter before waking up again in spring. Through discussions, investigations and a winter walk, children will observe seasonal changes, compare habitats and make predictions about animals and their environments.

Mathematics

We will continue developing number knowledge through counting and exploring numbers to five. Children will use mathematical language as they sequence the steps of the hibernation cycle, order story events and investigate patterns in the world around them. Practical activities will encourage reasoning, problem-solving and counting with confidence.

Expressive Arts and Design

Children will use a range of materials to create winter artwork, animal homes and bear caves. They will engage in imaginative role play, pretending to be hibernating animals and exploring different habitats. Children will create detailed animal drawings while developing their creativity and observational skills.

Art Appreciation: Andrew Parkinson