

Basic skills are the important building-blocks of learning. Speaking and Listening, counting, reading and writing.

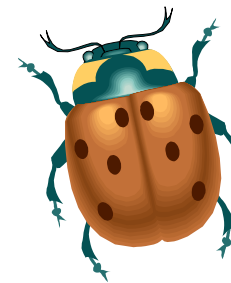
Help your child acquire basic skills by:

- taking every opportunity which arises to talk about things
- ask them questions to make them think about the world
- give them new words to extend their vocabulary and articulate their feelings and ideas.
- let them listen to adult conversations, even if they only appear to be playing, they will be picking up language!
- look for patterns and shapes as you are out and about—always listen to your child's ideas, however "odd" they may seem
- counting can be explored in all situations, but please be careful to encourage children to count carefully (touch if possible) to ensure one-to-one correspondence rather than just chant numbers i.e. run from tree to tree in the park and count each one as you reach it.
- let your child help when you are cooking if you can – there is a wealth of opportunity to count ingredients such as currants, carrots, peas etc.
- read to your child as much as you can—let them see you reading too!
- always switch off the television or radio if you are reading to your child, encourage them to look carefully at the pictures and tell you what they see.
- spend time with books and talk the language of books, teach them to handle books carefully, go to the library to borrow books and bookshops to spend birthday money.



Robin class

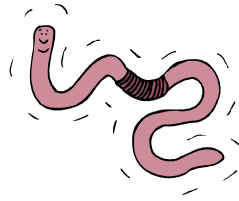
Summer 1 2010



Helping your child's learning at home....



Reception Topic for Summer one Creeping and crawling



We will start the Summer term with a one week focus on a painting by Paolo Uccello of George and the Dragon.

We will then be having a focus on keeping healthy looking at the importance of exercise, hygiene and eating well.

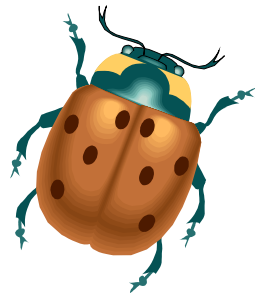
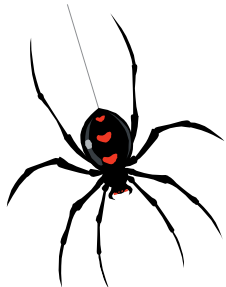
During the rest of summer term 1 we will be learning about minibeasts.

We will be using the school grounds to discover the types of places different minibeasts like to live in.

We will be learning to log on and off the laptops using the correct method. We will be using an art based program to draw minibeasts, and other programs to develop mouse control.

We will look at famous pictures by the artist Matisse and read books by Eric Carle.

The half term will end by holding an Ugly Bug Ball!



Things you can do at home:

- ◆ Search for minibeasts in gardens and parks.
- ◆ Compare the minibeasts found in your garden to the ones found in a relative's or friend's garden. Are they the same?
- ◆ Can you name all the minibeasts you find?.
- ◆ Make your own minibeast from different materials.
- ◆ Use the library and the internet to discover more! There are many good sites on the internet, if you discover a special site, please let us know!

