

Caterpillar Nursery Learning Focus Spring 4

The colder weather at the beginning of the month brought lots of awe and wonder to our outdoor environment. The children were amazed as they noticed and explored the changes that had happened over night. Frost and ice appeared for the children to discover in all the nooks and crannies of their play spaces.

Some children chose to mark make with sticks, scratching into the frost to create lines and patterns. Other children noticed how ice formed in the bottom of a tin container, and how the ice had moulded itself around the plastic balls, which left round hollows in the ice as they took the balls out.

Most of the children wanted to hold the ice and they commented on how it felt and what it looked like...

“It very cold” “It’s freezing!” “Mines melting” “Is it glass?”

Such rich vocabulary and knowledge sharing being used to describe and find out more about the ice.



New resources, new challenges, new learning opportunities!

We have been putting our fine motor skills to the test as we practice our threading skills. Children are encouraged to ‘have a go’ at threading the chunky wooden fruit pieces onto a lace, using a wooden needle.

It was great to see the perseverance shown by some children who would usually give up or ask an adult to do it for them. The look of pride on their faces when they achieved what they set out to do was a lovely moment to share.

Lots of children were familiar with the fruits and could name them or identify each different piece from a group.



Now that we are into March, we are starting to notice the weather becoming a little warmer. We have been talking about the season of Spring and the changes that it brings.

We have discussed how the birds are building their nests and how it is the time of year when baby animals are born on the farm. This has given us lots of opportunities to promote new language, as we name different animals and join in with favourite songs, such as Old Macdonald.

We have also been looking closely at Spring flowers. The children showed lots of interest, smelling the tulips, and carefully touching the pink petals.... "I got flowers in my garden" one of the children shared.

We continue to practice our fine motor skills and have been using tweezers to pick up pom-poms. Children have been naming colours and matching the pom-poms to correspond with coloured spots inside egg boxes.

There have been many rainy days this month, so we decided to take the opportunity to explore water. We dressed the children up in their waterproof suits and wellies and then encouraged them to go out in the rain. They were so excited and had a wonderful time splashing in the puddles and catching the rainwater in buckets! They are learning about the compound water and what it can do as a resource!

We then extended these water activities by introducing paint rollers and trays, which the children used to do water-painting on the outdoor blackboard.



World book day was so much fun! We enjoyed a 'very hungry caterpillar' themed tea party, where we all shared lots of lovely goodies, generously provided by yourselves! (Thank you all so much) The children were excited to see that lots of the food on the table for them to try was also featured within the book.

Children were encouraged to serve themselves and try new foods they may not have had the opportunity to try before. It was a lovely sociable time that sparked lots of conversation around likes, dislikes and identifying fruit.

We spent lots of time sharing the books and stories that children had brought along with them too.

