



## Activities at home for Hedgehogs

Our topic for the month of April is: The farm, growing and springtime.

### **The areas we will be covering are:**

- Role play - minibeast role play/farm role play.
- Growing station - Planting cress, sunflowers, vegetables and salad. Watching/helping them grow/preparing the wild garden for planting.
- Cycle of seed to flower.
- Baby animals - matching them to their parents.
- Observing the lifecycle of caterpillars to butterflies and other lifecycles.
- Butterfly pictures talking about simple patterns, symmetry and shape.
- Observing our minibeast hotel in the sensory garden and nature walks in the garden.
- Learning about different minibeasts - how many legs, wings etc..
- How minibeasts move through dance and actions.
- Messy/sensory play with minibeasts and planting equipment.
- Collecting natural objects for craft and play.
- Minibeast, growing and springtime crafts.
- Farm small world and minibeast small world with sensory/messy play.
- Baisakhi, Eid al Fitr, St George's Day festivals.

### **Books, rhymes and songs:**

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Enormous Turnip (story)</li><li>• Jack and the Beanstalk (story)</li><li>• Mary, Mary Quite Contrary (rhyme)</li><li>• The Very Hungry Caterpillar, Mad about Minibeasts, 5 Little Speckled Frogs, We're Going on a Bear Hunt, Old MacDonald had a Farm (story box available to borrow from office)</li><li>• Spinderella (story)</li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• CD stories - Over in the Meadow, Outdoor Opposites, Creepy Crawly Calypso, Driving my Tractor.</li><li>• What the Ladybird Heard (story)</li><li>• Lifecycle information books - frog, butterfly, bee, oak tree</li><li>• Minibeast rhymes - Wiggly Woo, Ladybird, Ladybird, Incy, Wincy Spider</li><li>• Spring, minibeast and farm fact books.</li></ul> |
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### **Ideas how to explore this topic at home or when you are out and about:**

- Visiting ponds - tadpole spotting and pond dipping.
- Helping plant in the garden and help maintain seeds/bulbs - watering them. Plant a variety of different seeds - flowers, fruits and vegetables.
- Drawing/painting pictures of your favourite minibeast - bring in and share.
- Minibeast hunts in the outdoor environment - naming the minibeasts you find eg. Sammy the snail, Lucy ladybird.
- Nature hunts and long walks - bring in and take photos of what you have seen/found to share with friends.
- Making your own minibeast houses in the garden using natural materials.
- Read stories and sing rhymes about minibeasts, spring and farm.
- Make minibeasts out of junk modelling or playdough.
- Den making inside and outside.
- Make bird feeders and spot birds in the garden.
- Visit parks, woods, farms, nature reserves and garden centres. Send in photos.
- Celebrating Baisakhi, Eid al Fitr, St George's Day festivals with family and friends.



## Activities at home for Lambs

Our topic for the month of April is: Spring, minibeasts and being outdoors.

### **The areas we will be covering are:**

- Role play - den making outside
- Planting cress, sunflowers, vegetables and salad and watching/helping them grow.
- Observing the lifecycle of caterpillars to butterflies.
- Butterfly pictures talking about simple patterns and symmetry.
- Observing our minibeast hotel in the sensory garden.
- Walking around our environment spotting minibeasts and birds.
- Acting out stories - Jack and the Beanstalk, Enormous Turnip.
- Learning about different minibeasts - how many legs, wings etc..
- Ordering bugs by size, height or length and weighing the pretend bugs using the balance scales.
- Minibeast, Spring craft activities.
- How minibeasts move through dance and actions.
- Messy/sensory play with minibeasts and planting equipment.
- Adding to our science table - collecting natural objects, empty seed packets.
- Baisakhi, Eid al Fitr, St George's Day festivals.

### **Books, rhymes and songs:**

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Enormous Turnip (story)</li><li>• Jack and the Beanstalk (story)</li><li>• Mary, Mary Quite Contrary (rhyme)</li><li>• The Very Hungry Caterpillar, Mad about Minibeasts, 5 Little Speckled Frogs, (story box available to borrow from office)</li><li>• Spinderella (story)</li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• CD stories - Over in the Meadow, Outdoor Opposites, Creepy Crawly Calypso</li><li>• What the Ladybird Heard (story)</li><li>• Lifecycle information books - frog, butterfly, bee, oak tree</li><li>• Minibeast rhymes - Wiggly Woo, Ladybird, Ladybird, Incy, Wincy Spider</li></ul> |
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### **Ideas how to explore this topic at home or when you are out and about:**

- Visiting ponds - tadpole spotting and pond dipping.
- Helping plant in the garden and help maintain seeds/bulbs - watering.
- Drawing/painting pictures of your favourite minibeast - bring in and share.
- Making your own beanstalk and bring in to show and tell.
- Minibeast hunts in the outdoor environment - naming the minibeasts you find eg. Sammy the snail, Lucy ladybird.
- Making our own minibeast houses in the garden using natural materials.
- Read stories and sing rhymes about minibeasts.
- Make minibeasts out of junk modelling or playdough.
- Collecting natural objects, empty seed packets for our science table.
- Den making inside and outside.
- Send in photos of enjoying the outdoors.
- Make bird feeders and spot birds in the garden.
- Celebrating Baisakhi, Eid al Fitr and St George's Day with family and friends.