

Our sharing diary

15th April Our Latest Collective Rewards scheme

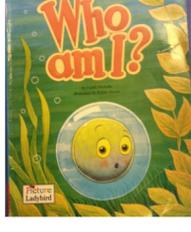


Our new Collective Rewards is filling the honeycomb with busy bees. The children will receive a bee for being kind, sharing, listening, being helpful and tidying up the toys without being asked to. Our reward will be baking some nice treats to enjoy.

Good luck everyone, Let's get busy.



Tadpoles



Before the Easter break I brought some frogspawn into Pre-school from my pond. The children watched as it changed and the tiny tadpoles emerged from their 'jelly' eggs.

The tadpoles have grown very quickly over the past few weeks and the children like to check on their growth.



This is one of the children's favourite books which describes how George the Tadpole changes from a 'Jelly, Belly Tot' in the dark, dark pond into a frog, showing all the different stages of his development.

8th May Kathy's Music Session

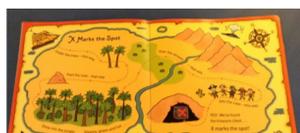


Today we had a visit from Kathy for one of her music sessions. Today's theme was based around tadpoles and how they changed into frogs. She showed the children her wooden frogs which are played by scraping a stick down the ridges on their backs and how the different sized frogs all made different sounds when played.



Then Kathy chose children to play each one of her frogs and she needed another child to play the cymbals to make the sound when the frog goes 'snap' as it tries to catch a fly at the appropriate part of the song.

9th May Pirates



We have been reading Pirate stories and singing pirate songs following children's interest in making telescopes. To encourage mark making we are now making treasure maps. Karen gathered some tea bags and some coffee granules. "I know exactly what you are doing." Luis said confidently. "What am I going to do?" Karen asked him. Luis explained "Put them in water and put it on the paper to make it look really dirty." Luis used the wet tea bags to stain his paper and sprinkled on some coffee to make stains. I explained we needed to let our paper dry and we could continue making our maps the next day so Luis put his paper on the drying rack. The following day Luis used ideas from one of the story books to make his treasure map.

The children are enjoying making their treasure maps then using them to go on treasure hunts. Molly drew circles and lines to represent different parts of the landscape. She told Linda "This is skeleton's hands!" "Here there are crocodiles!!" Francesca wanted to join in so she asked Molly "What does it say now?" "It says this way! Let's go!" They were both very excited and spent a long time in the garden looking for their treasure. "Have you found the treasure?" Linda asked "Not yet, let's go!" Molly looked at the map and then at the sand pit. "I saw it! It's over there - she ran to the edge of the sand pit - it's here, let me dig it out. It's got cookies in here!" she said and pretended to eat her treasure. "Let's find some more treasures" she said and left for a new adventure.



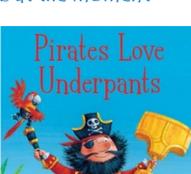
Building Pirate ships

Today we put out beams, blocks and poles for the children to build with. Some children chose to build a Pirate ship. Luis and Robi worked well together, joining everything together make the shape of a ship. They put blocks under to support areas that were wobbly and added the poles. Other children began to join in, deciding it was like an obstacle course. They walked all the way round arms outstretched. "Hey, it's our pirate ship" Robi told them. The others continued to walk around but it was a challenge as it was very wobbly....

Just like walking the plank?

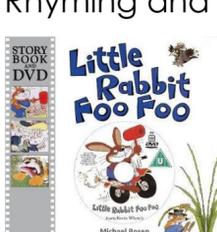


The children decided that they needed to make some Pirate hats just like the Captain of the Pirate ship in one of their favourite books at the moment 'Pirates Love Underpants'

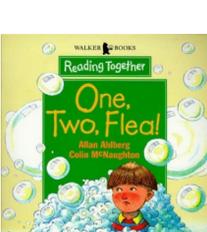


Armed with their treasure maps and Pirate hats, the children also used Metal detectors to go hunting for buried treasure.

Rhyming and Rhythm in stories



Two of our children's favourite stories at the moment are 'Little Rabbit Foo Foo' and 'One Two Flea'. Both these stories have a lovely rhythm as you read them. 'Little Rabbit Foo Foo' has lots of repeated refrains and 'One Two Flea' introduces the children to rhyming words.



20th May 'Rhyming words'



Some of our children are getting really good at stringing together rhyming words such as 'bat, hat, cat' so today I provided some new resources to extend the children's skills. The 2 halves of the egg have pictures on to give the children a clue to help them find which pieces might fit together and they were encouraged to say the words to check that they rhymed.

A few of the older children who are beginning to 'sound out' words have been able to extend the activity by searching for the correct magnetic letters to spell out the words as well.



20th May We did it again!

A huge well done to all our super children for their efforts to collect busy bees, we have filled the hive.

Our collective reward will be baking this week with honey, then of course eating the buns.



23rd May Baking Honey Buns



All the children have worked hard at being kind, helpful and good listeners and they have filled our honeycomb with lots of bees so today we baked Honey Buns.

Everyone listened to instructions, washed their hands and waited for their turn to weigh, mix and spoon the mixture into bun cases.

When the buns were cooked and cooled we decorated them using icing and butterflies.

23rd May 'Froglet' escaping!

I took a few tadpoles of the big tub so the children could see them more clearly and discovered that not only were they beginning to grow their back legs but some of them were already changing into little 'froglets'. I took the tub around the room showing the children how the tadpoles were changing and explained that we would have to take them across to the pond tomorrow and let them go. "It's a little frog Jacquie" Amelia said as she looked at the little froglet as it began to climb up the side of the tub.



24th May Visiting the pond



Today we took a walk across to the pond area in the corner of the school grounds to release our tadpoles and emerging froglets as we are on holiday next week we will not be able to look after them anymore. The children listened to instructions about walking safely to the pond area including how to cross the car park safely and how to stay safe around the water when we got to the pond.

After releasing the tadpoles we went to sit in the sunshine for our snack today. We took along some of the 'honey buns' and some fruit to eat, it was just like a picnic.



We hope you have enjoyed reading about what our children have enjoyed doing and learning about this half term and if you would like to share with us what your children have enjoyed doing we would be pleased to hear from you.

Thank you from all the staff at

Templegate Tiny Tots Pre-school