

Foundation Stage News

June 23rd 2023



Our learning this last fortnight:

Two weeks ago, the children received a wiggly surprise. A mystery box arrived with some clues on the front to help us guess what could be inside. On the box it said 'Please keep upright...Handle with care...Living creatures inside.' The children had great fun predicting what creatures could be small enough to fit inside the box. This led to a discussion about insects and finally the big reveal....baby caterpillars!



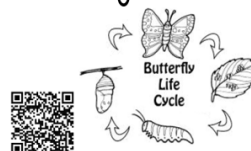
The children carefully transferred the baby caterpillars into their sticky food pots and have been fascinated by how quickly they have grown over the last 10 days. We talked about how important it is to take care of these beautiful creatures and the children have been using their school values of kindness, responsibility and respect as they have observed them in class.

Using an information book, the children have been learning about the life-cycle of a butterfly. They made their own life-cycle wheels to help remember the changes that happen. Have a look at our Learning Prompt video online with your child so they can recall this with you.

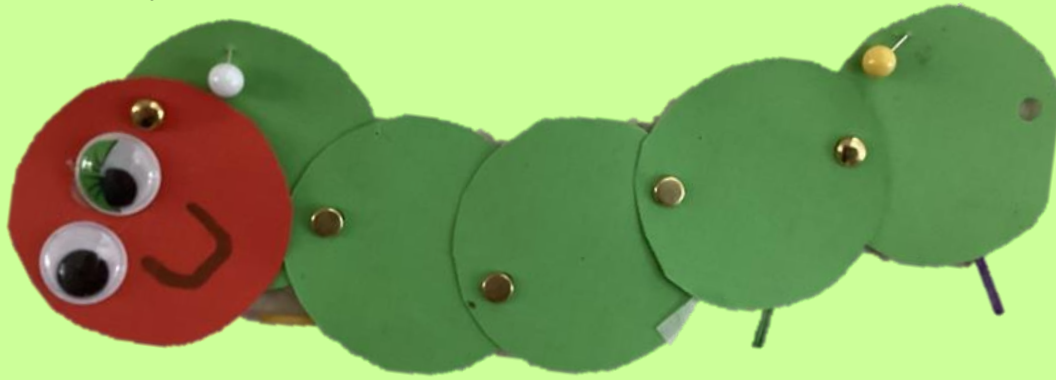


[Life Cycle Learning Prompt Video](#)

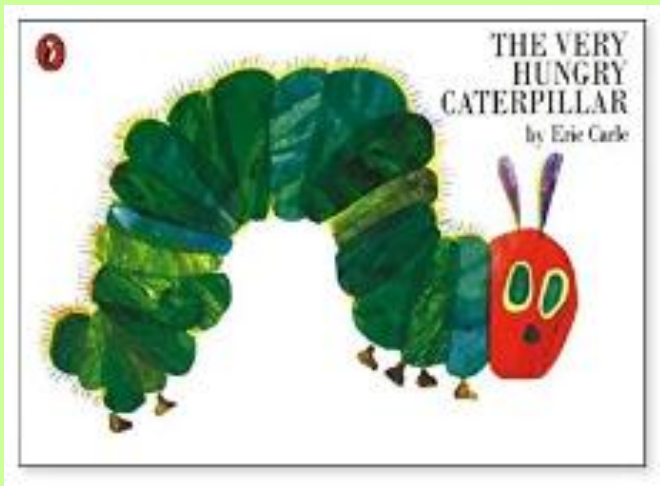
Life-cycle of a butterfly



The children observed the caterpillars carefully this week and noticed how they move by crawling. They went on to explore this further in the Art Studio making their own wiggly caterpillars. They learned that they can use string, a pipe cleaner or a split pin to make a moving mechanism.



After only a week, many of the caterpillars crawled up to the top of their pots and began to spin their chrysalis. We noticed that if we are too noisy, or get too close to them, the chrysalis will begin to shake!

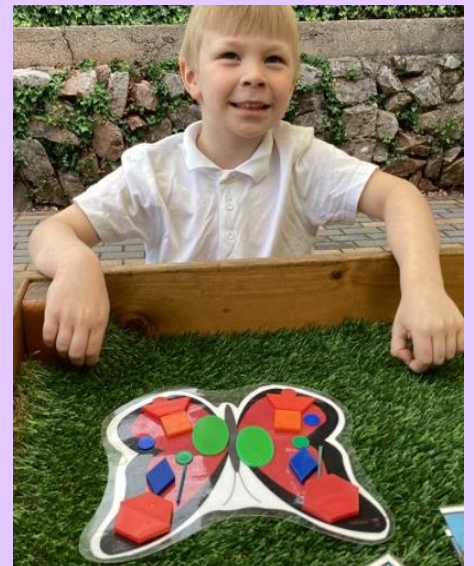


At the end of last week, we enjoyed reading the well-known tale of 'The Very Hungry Caterpillar'. The children loved the beautiful illustrations and were super storytellers, joining in with the repeating phrases with wonderful expression "...but he was *too* hungry!"



Mathematics in the Natural World

We looked closely at the wings of butterflies and observed the near symmetrical patterns. The children explored symmetry through string printing, making symmetrical body shapes with a partner and using 2D shapes.



Healthy Food Choices

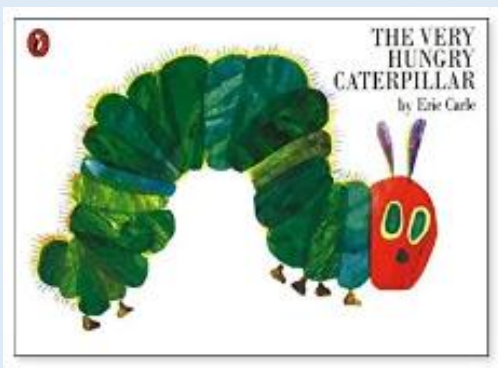
The children thought about why the Hungry Caterpillar had such a bad tummy ache...he had eaten too many treats! Using our play food, they sorted the food into different categories e.g. fruits, vegetables, meat, and had a think about which foods were healthy and which were treats.



They had a wonderful time making their own healthy fruit kebab, carefully preparing the fruits, demonstrating how to hold and use a knife safely to cut their own pieces.

Books we have shared this week:

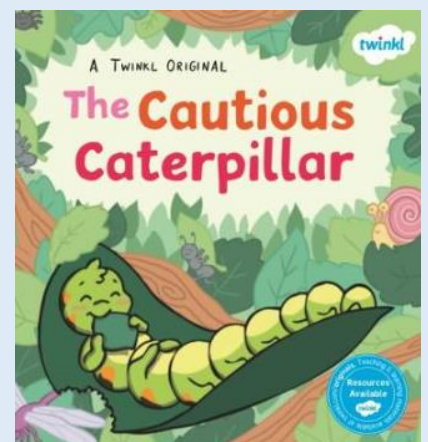
Below are the books we have shared this week. It is always good to revisit these books at home so that you can have conversations with your child about their experiences in school. If you do not have these books at home you may be able to find them at your local library or often there are video versions by searching the title on YouTube.



'The Very Hungry Caterpillar'
by Eric Carle



'Tadpole's Promise'
By Tony Ross



'The Cautious Caterpillar'
A Twinkl Original

The Animal Man!

We had an absolutely awesome visit from Chris the Animal Man this week and saw so many wonderful creatures – we even got to touch some of them too! Amongst many other wonderful creatures, we met an armadillo named Herbie, Millie the Giant African Millipede, a Milk Snake, Coco the Fat Tailed Gecko and Sava the Lesser Tenrec – a tiny hedgehog-like creature which is a distant relative of an elephant!



Sports Day

Thank you for coming along and supporting our Early Years Sports Day. The children were super stars and demonstrated a great team spirit cheering each other along.



Celebrating children's learning

Stick-a-saurus Erin you spent almost a whole day creating your beautiful Book Bag in the Art Studio. Your level of involvement was incredibly high. We are so impressed with the intricate details you added such as the Union Jack keyrings and the patterned handles.

