



Worplesdon Primary School – Weekly Update

Dear Parents / Carers,

21.1.2022

It has been a very chilly, but great week in Reception!

This week's learning:

In Phonics, we recapped all previously learnt tricky words and sounds focusing on 'ow' (cow) and 'oi' and introduced the trigraphs 'ear' and 'air'. In Literacy, we read 'Handa's Surprise', sequenced and retold the story. In Maths, we looked at the composition of numbers to 5, dug deeper by the children working out a hidden amount, compared mass and discussed full and empty. In Understanding the World, we explored mini-mash (Early Years part of Purple Mash). The children have a login which is at the front of their reading diaries. We linked this to our 'Around the World' topic and focused on the continent of Africa linking to the story of Handa's Surprise. The children explored 2paint and Simple City on Mini-mash, learning how to use different tools and learning how to save and open their work.

Next week's learning:

In Phonics, we will be recapping all previously taught sounds and tricky words/harder to read and spell words, and learning the graphemes 'ure,' 'er,' and 'ow (snow)'. In Literacy, we will be tweaking Handa's Surprise by changing one of the animals that takes some fruit out of Handa's basket. We will then create our own zig-zag book on the story focusing on what happens at the beginning, middle and end of the story. In Maths, we will be measuring capacity, measuring ingredients by making our own playdough and looking at the composition of 6. In Understanding the World, we will be exploring the continent of Africa. We will explore different countries in Africa, look at the similarities and differences between the countries within Africa and learn about some African animals.

Other:

Last week we started following a new Phonics Scheme of learning called Essential Letters and Sounds, the scheme follows the Phases we have already taught (phase 2 and 3). One of the differences with our new phonics is we now call 'tricky' words 'harder to read and spell words'. Currently we are using both names with the children as we transition to the new vocabulary. This week, you may have noticed that our reading books have changed and are now fully phonetically decodable and include harder to read and spell words we have learnt. This exciting change means that the children will be able to move through the book phases as we introduce and learn new sounds and graphemes (the written representation of a sound). Last week we assessed each child's phonic knowledge at recognising and applying the sounds and allocated books after analysing the data from the assessments. We hope your children enjoy reading these books with you at home.

Another website that you may enjoy using is Phonics Play: <https://www.phonicsplay.co.uk/> . There are a range of free games you can play. The games the children enjoy at school are: Buried Treasure, Dragon's Den and Picnic on Pluto.

Have a wonderful weekend!

Take care and stay safe,
The Early Years Team