

## PN THEME 9: ANIMALS AND WHERE THEY LIVE. (06<sup>th</sup> May to 31<sup>st</sup> May)

During our ninth topic of the year we explore the beautiful and interesting world of animals.

### THEME LESSONS

Some keywords and songs you can practice with your children at home:

Keywords: Pig, oink, duck, quack, cat, meow, dog, bark, horse, neigh, cow, moo, sheep, baa, hen, cluck, farm, farmer, tractor, animals, barn, go, spring, bugs, small, butterfly, ladybug, spider, bee, ant, water, octopus, seahorse, fish, turtle, whale, polar bear, lion, hippo, zebra, snake, elephant, leopard.

Songs: 'Roly poly,' 'Old MacDonald,' 'Baby shark' and 'Animals two by two.'

We start this theme off on the farm, learning what some of our favourite farm animals say and do. The song 'Old MacDonald,' will help the children to learn in a fun way. Each child will also get a fun farm animal face mask, so they can be in character when making the animal sounds. The classes will then learn about other things we find on farms, such as tractors and farmers. The teacher will set up a 'farm in a box,' which the children will get time to interact with. They will also read the fun book, 'Down by the barn.' For some extra enjoyment the teacher will set up a 'Piggy wash station,' where the children will learn how to clean muddy pigs! Classes will then move onto learning about the wonderful world of bugs. The teacher will set up a bug scavenger hunt and the children will get to see how many bugs they can find hidden away in the tiniest of hiding spots. The book, 'Bugs, bugs, bugs,' will show the children some of the unique features of bugs. Remember, just because bugs are small and crawl on the floor, doesn't mean we can squash them. Towards the end of the theme, teachers will introduce the children to some of the amazing animals living in our oceans. They will read a book titled, 'You are my baby ocean,' and the teacher will also set up an ocean sensory tub, filled with blue water beads and plastic ocean animals. The children will get to explore this tub, searching for different animals and naming them as they find them. Lastly, the classes will focus on some of the bigger animals roaming our planet, learning their names and what their homes look like.

### ART LESSONS *(sample to the right may vary from actual art work)*

In their art lessons the classes will have fun celebrating the feeling of Spring are in the air. The children will work together to paint a beautiful bunch of flowers, using their handprints. They will then continue appreciating the wonderful world of bugs by making a colourful butterfly! During their last art lesson of the theme, the children will celebrate Dragon Boat Festival by making a green, fire breathing dragon!



### MATH & READING LESSONS

Some keywords and songs you can practice with your children at home:

Keywords: Pattern, same, picture, shape, bat, cave, bee, hive, bird, nest, home, cow, barn, dog, dog house, fish, water, mouse, hole, penguin, ice, squirrel, tree, tortoise, shell.

Songs: 'Little elephant balancing' and 'If the monkey's feeling happy.'

The children will start this theme's math lessons by looking more closely at patterns. The teachers will make simple colour and shape patterns to get the children comfortable with the concept. They will also explore simple patterns on fabric and wrapping paper. They will read the book, 'Little kids look and learn patterns,' which shows how we can find beautiful patterns everywhere in nature and in the world around us. The children will then have some squishy fun, painting patterns using marshmallows! Yay!!

In keeping with the theme, the children will read the book, 'My first book of animal homes,' during their reading line lessons. You can reference the keywords section above and practise some of these with your children at home.