

### **Personal, Social and Emotional Development**

Our Jigsaw theme is 'Relationships' and the children will explore what makes a good friend and how to play with them. There will be discussions on how to resolve difficulties and conflict with each other. For some moving on to school we want to ensure they are confident and able to express their feelings and needs as we begin to talk about transition to reception classes. Children will be taking on responsibility for looking after the chicks, frogspawn and butterflies.

### **Communication, Language and Literacy**

Supporting the development of the children's speaking skills they will be encouraged to ask questions. Eg What do they want to find out about the chicks? They will be encouraged to explain their observations. In group times the skill of listening to others and then responding appropriately will be developed. 'Show and Tell' gives opportunities to develop questioning and listening to others. Children will continue to make up helicopter stories to develop vocabulary and story structure.

### **Mathematical Development**

Children will learning about shapes as they explore symmetrical patterns. Further shape activities will develop descriptive vocabulary and making repeating patterns. Ensuring the children have a good understanding of the numbers to ten they will be matching numbers and quantities. They will be comparing amounts with a focus on the vocabulary 'more', 'less', how many more do I need to make 5 etc.

### **Following the Children's Interests -**

The children have been showing curiosity and sharing their observations of worms/ladybirds etc so we have planned further learning to build upon this interest with opportunities to observe lifecycles first-hand: frogspawn, chick eggs and eggs to butterflies.

## **Rainbows Explorers Nursery**

Term 5 2010:

Life Cycles – The Very Hungry Caterpillar



### **Literacy**

Daily phonic sessions will be focusing on hearing initial and some children will work on medial and final sounds so they can blend and segment CVC words. The children will be looking at information books about frogs, chicks etc. We will discuss how these differ from story books and record the information we find out. Children will also use computers to find out information.

### **Knowledge and Understanding of the World**

The children will gain an understanding of growth and change as we learn about the lifecycles of frogs, butterflies and chickens. They will have an opportunity to observe and comment upon chicks hatching out of eggs. Living Eggs will give us ten eggs ready to hatch and all the equipment to look after them. They will be making up 'rules' for looking after the chicks. The children will be learning to care for living things as they help to look after the chicks and tend to growing plants in the garden. Further opportunities to explore mini-beast habitats will be explored in Forest School.

### **Physical Development**

This term fine motor skills (Funky Fingers) will enable children to ensure they hold their pencil correctly and/or form recognisable letters. As the children think about what the chicks need - rest/sleep/food/exercise we will relate it to their needs. Snacks will include making healthy fruit kebabs. Outside children will be developing the gross motor skills as they use equipment such as bats and balls, scoops, skittles and bowling.

### **Expressive Arts and Design**

Using the den building equipment we were able to buy thanks to a donation from the PTA the children have opportunities to construct with a purpose in mind as well as developing a narrative in their play. Children will be combining media and exploring different techniques as they use pastels to do observational drawings, print with fruits, learn how to create different shades of green using blue and yellow.

### **Dates for your Dairy**

6 May - Bank Holiday  
7 - 17 May - eggs/chicks in  
24 May - last day of term 5

### **Links with Parents**

15 May - School Readiness  
Parent meeting