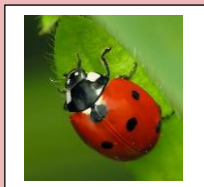


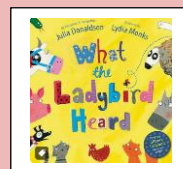


The children have had another fantastic week. They have followed the session routines independently and come up the ramp by happily without adult support. A huge thank you to parents and carers who have helped to support such a positive start to our new academic year.

During outdoor learning, the children have been fascinated by the large number of ladybirds they have noticed around the environment, leading to much excitement and discussion. As they observed the ladybirds, the children began to wonder where they might go and how they could be protected. Showing care and concern for living things, they decided that during forest school time this week they would build homes and shelters for the ladybirds. This child-led activity provides opportunities to develop communication and language skills, teamwork, problem-solving, creativity, and an understanding of the natural world while fostering a sense of responsibility towards the environment.



Ideas for Mathematical Development:



This weekend challenge your children to match things. This can be done by colour, size or shape. Sorting the socks after the wash into pairs that match. When out and about on your Autumn walks, children could:

-  Match leaves that are the same colour or shape.
-  Find pairs of conkers that are similar in size.
-  Collect leaves and sort them into matching groups.
-  Look for natural objects that are the same shape, such as round conkers or long sticks.
-  Match stones that are similar in size or colour.
-  Find and compare different types of seeds, pine cones or acorns.

Encourage your child to talk about why the items match and what makes them the same or different. This simple activity develops observation, sorting and early mathematical skills while helping children explore the wonderful changes that autumn brings.

We also enjoyed learning *The Conkers Song* while sitting under the shelter of the tree leaves. The children sang enthusiastically and talked about how the tree might enjoy listening to their voices. It was a lovely opportunity to develop a sense of wonder and appreciation for the natural world, and we think the tree loved our singing too! 🍁 🎵 🌳

"Picking up conkers shiny and round,
Look for the ones lying on the ground,
Kick the leaves over, what do I see?

5 shiny conkers just for me. "



This song is repeated and counts back each time so this time there are only 4 shiny conkers left in the song. This is particularly good for mathematical development. If you try this at home, use real conkers which gives good understanding of quantity. The children will know the tune and can help you out.

Important diary dates and information

Saturday 3rd October - Early Years Open Morning

Please pass onto friends and family. This is an event for those who are interested in a place at Southridge Nursery this year or next year.

Although Nursery do not take part in a **Harvest Festival** performance, we would like to encourage families to support our wider community by making a donation to a local food bank. **If you are able to**, please consider donating an item during your next visit to a supermarket food bank collection point. This helps children begin to understand the importance of kindness, generosity and helping others, which are **important values within our school community**. Thank you for your support.