



Snake Playgrounds

Last Friday Oak Tree Class visited the zoo at Bede's Senior School taking along the 'snake playgrounds' and animal feeders they have made as part of their learning about how zookeepers work hard to enrich the lives of the animals in their care.

The children were really excited to watch how a corn snake and a ball python used the frame that they had created. After seeing up close how the snakes moved through the branches and ropes, they decided to bring one of our frames back to school to add some hiding spaces. They hope to return to the zoo at the end of the topic with their new design. Since their visit we have heard that the marmosets have also enjoyed using the playground!

Oak Tree Class also had a go at making animal feeders out of baking soda, cornflour and water. After a few attempts they mastered the recipe and created small containers which the zookeeper Ami filled with food. We learnt from Mark Kingston-Jones (Maya's Dad) that as animals in the wild work hard to find their food, and often enjoy doing so, it is important to make feeders that challenge the animal's ability to access their food. We watched as Kinky the Kinkajou used his long tongue to reach into the feeders we had made whilst dangling from his tail. We are going to design some more challenging shapes to try on different animals next time we visit.

As well as taking part in enrichment activities the children were able to see the other inhabitants of the zoo which included binturongs, squirrel monkeys, marmosets, hopping mice, a bearded dragon, a leopard gecko and others. The children really loved having the opportunity to stroke a corn snake and to discover that the spikes on the bearded dragon 'really weren't that spikey'. Thanks to Mark Kingston-Jones for coming up with such a wonderful learning experience for the class.





Let us learn from our children. Let us attend to the knowledge which their lives gently urge upon us and listen to the quiet demands of their hearts

Freibel



Hibernating Hedgehogs

This week Willow Class has been linking maths lessons with their science sessions. They have been looking at how different types of charts and graphs help us to present and analyse data. They learnt how to create a scatter graph and a line graph. The line graph was particularly helpful in a science session where they looked at how hedgehogs use leaves to keep warm as they hibernate over winter.

They wanted to see if there was a difference in temperature loss between two identical hot objects when one was left out in the open air and the other was put into a leaf den.

They used a data logger with 2 temperature probes to collect the data and then answered their science question by plotting a line graph to compare data sets.



Fires in the Forest

Sycamore Class were honing their Forest School skills this week, when they helped to build and light a fire, they collected sticks of various sizes, then used some straw to catch a spark that Gabriel created with a striker and ignite a flame. They also peeled and prepared sticks, using peeling tools, ready to wrap damper bread around and cook over the fire. They then ate the cooked bread with honey, delicious!



Colour Paddles

The colour paddles were a real hit in kindergarten. Most of the group wanted to use them so they went to the STEAM room to get more. They revisited this activity throughout the week and it led them to make rainbow decorations for their windows.

Alexander and Harper spent around 30 minutes exploring all the different colours that can be made by combining the paddles.

Amiya and Aurelia saw the world through red and purple glasses. Alexander explored how light changes direction as it travels through the prism.

"Red and blue makes purple."
Aletta

"Blue and blue makes dark blue."
Asher

"All the colours make brown!"
Harper

"Yellow and blue make green."
Alexander

"Red and yellow make orange,"
Didi

"Everything is red!!" - Amiya

Menu for week after half term:

Monday: Pasta and veggies

Tuesday: Falafel wraps, salad, hummus

Wednesday: Soup and Sourdough

Thursday: Pizza and veggies

Friday: Packed Lunch

Diary for week beginning 21st February

Monday:

Tuesday:

Wednesday: Kinderplay

Thursday: Oak Trees outing to British Wildlife Centre

Friday: