

# RECEPTION



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*Coming up Next Week...02/06/2025*

We are doing the Sunflower Challenge! Please read the information below about a fun activity for your children to do over half term. We would also like your child to bring in a yogurt pot to use for planting a seed.

The children will also be making musical instruments in music this term so if you have boxes of various sizes (no bigger than a cereal box please!) and kitchen roll tubes, they will be gratefully received for our junk modelling. As ever very many thanks for your support.

## *Learning in school:*

Topic: Far, Far Away...

**This half term we will be learning about our planet. We will be looking at our local environment, and then comparing, and contrasting our local environment with other countries.**

This week we will be learning about similarities and differences between the UK and other countries. We will be talking about places we have visited or where family members live, sharing what we know about other places and thinking about what we would like to find out.

## *Phonics:*

This week we will be focusing on reading and writing CVCC words, for example, toast (t-oa-s-t), growl (g-r-ow-l), gloom (g-l-oo-m). The tricky words we will be learning are 'we, he, she, me, be, of, say, where.'

## *Maths:*

This week in maths we will be revisiting some of our previous learning and exploring sharing. We will be using the language 'group, share, equal, fair, unfair, more, less, same, each' to tell simple number stories. We will continue to explore number bonds to 10.

**We are taking part in the Sunflower Challenge this term which is an exciting way of teaching maths using seeds, planting and growing.**

This week our focus will be on Number Sense where the children will subitise and count sunflower seeds. To do this we will be exploring seeds from sunflowers, subitising small groups of seeds (1-5) and counting larger groups using 5 and 10 frames. We will incorporate number rhymes and songs about seeds.

We would love the children to become Sunflower Experts and do some detective work to find out all about sunflowers. We look forward to seeing what they find out!

What is a sunflower? Do all sunflowers look the same? Where do sunflowers grow? Where can we find out more about sunflowers?

To be an expert sunflower grower you're going to need to do some detective work!

Your challenge is to find as many photographs of sunflowers as you can in books and on the internet. You could use a 'collage app' on your computer or tablet to create your own posters of what you find to share with your friends.

'Top Tips' for your important research:

When you can, visit your local library and ask the people who work there to help you find books on sunflowers and growing seeds. Books from the library are free and it's a wonderful place to be a scientist.

As well as search engines on the internet like 'Google', you could also use 'Pinterest' and 'Instagram'. Can you find any more places like this that are good for information and photographs?

Look for special nature sites that are about growing sunflowers in the country where you live.

Look for 'close up' photos and images taken through microscopes!

### *Additional notes and reminders*

#### Homework for Half Term

The children will receive a tricky word worksheet to look at over the half term. Just a reminder that tricky words are tricky because they cannot be sounded out and we have to try to recognise them!

To support your child with their writing activity, please first ask your child to orally tell you a sentence about the picture. When you have orally rehearsed the sentence a few times, ask your child to write it down. Remind them to use capital letters, full stops and finger spaces. Please encourage them to sound out phonetically plausible words rather than giving them the spelling.

Please don't worry if your child is not yet writing sentences, we are working on this at school. Building their confidence is the best way to start so using their sounds and letter formation would be our focus for now.  
Speak to your class teacher if you have any concerns or questions.



Library slots:

Jellyfish- Monday

Turtles- Tuesday

Starfish- Thursday

All three classes now have PE on a Wednesday and Sports Coach P.E. on the field on Friday.

Class email addresses:

[turtles@mead.surrey.sch.uk](mailto:turtles@mead.surrey.sch.uk)

[starfish@mead.surrey.sch.uk](mailto:starfish@mead.surrey.sch.uk)

[jellyfish@mead.surrey.sch.uk](mailto:jellyfish@mead.surrey.sch.uk)

*Please note that as the week progresses it is sometimes necessary to change what is planned to meet the learning needs of the children and therefore changes to the above may occur.*