

# Reception Medium Term Plan – At the Bottom of the Garden 2025 - 2026

## Art and Expressive design

Children will engage in art and creative activities centered around mini beasts. They will use stones and paint to decorate their stones, transforming them into colorful mini beasts. Additionally, children will have the opportunity to express their creativity by coloring their favorite mini beasts using coloring sheets. Exploring the world of colors, they will experiment with mixing different shades of green to decorate their caterpillar creations.

## Literacy

Children will continue to develop their reading skills by blending and segmenting sounds to read more words, phrases, and short sentences. They will use keywords and prompts to write simple sentences about different mini beasts. Additionally, they will practice reading short sentences and match them to the correct pictures, reinforcing their reading comprehension.

## Maths

Children will engage in various mathematical activities. They will count the number of each image up to 20 and record the totals on a checklist. They will also match numerals with mini beast themed corresponding objects and pictures, strengthening their number recognition skills. Addition and subtraction will be practiced using a number line. Children will have the opportunity to order numbers and practice skip counting by 10s. Additionally, they will explore 3D shapes with mini beast-themed nets, discussing different shapes and their properties.



## Reception At the Bottom of the Garden

## Understanding the world

Children will participate in various activities related to mini beasts. They will learn about the life cycle of a butterfly and share their thoughts and ideas. Discussions will be held about the homes and habitats of mini beasts, including what should be present in their habitats. A dedicated corner in the classroom will be used for planting seeds and observing their growth, fostering an understanding of the natural world. Children will also engage in conversations about how honey is made. In the kitchen corner, they will have the opportunity to prepare delicious honey biscuits, combining learning with a hands-on culinary experience.

## Communication and Language

Children will explore the world of mini beasts and their habitats. They will learn about the various names of mini beasts and discuss their characteristics and where they live. Children will have the opportunity to share their own experiences with mini beasts, discussing their favorite mini beasts and explaining why they are fond of them. Reading stories about mini beasts, children will engage in comprehension activities by describing the events that unfold in the stories.

## Personal, Social and Emotional Development

Children will engage in discussions about their unique qualities and what makes them special. They will collaborate to create a set of rules for caring for mini beasts, promoting responsibility and empathy. In the construction area, children will work in teams to design and build houses for mini beasts. Children will select a picture of their favorite mini beast and express their emotions by creating a facial expression that reflects how that picture makes them feel.

## Physical Development

Children will explore movement by engaging in various activities inspired by mini beasts. They will use action cards to guide them in moving in different ways, promoting physical coordination and creativity. Through finger painting, children will have the opportunity to print or decorate their own mini beast artwork, fostering fine motor skills and artistic expression. Using tweezers, they will pick up small world mini beasts and place them in their appropriate habitats, enhancing their hand-eye coordination and understanding of habitats. Additionally, children will use playdough to sculpt and shape models of mini beasts, promoting tactile exploration and imaginative play.