

Summer Term 1 Science Newsletter

Thank you to all those of you who stopped me to tell say how much their children had enjoyed taking part in the science investigations with the paper flowers, please do send in photographs of your children and I will include them in the next newsletter. Many of you commented that you had learnt something new about Beatrix Potter, our scientist in the last newsletter. Remember to please ask your child to let me know if they would like a particular focus for one of the newsletters. Please keep sending in the science which you do at home as it is wonderful to share what you do and I can continue to add it to our newsletter. Thank you, Mrs Banham



Which image do you think is the odd one out?

Remember: There is no wrong or right answer you just need to explain your thoughts, reasons and ideas



Scientist - Sir David Attenborough 1926- Naturalist

David Attenborough was born in London and brought up in Leicester, by the time he was 7 years old, he had become very interested in science and the natural world. He enjoyed going on cycling expeditions and collecting fossils and rocks. He kept tanks of tropical fish and loved searching for newts in local ponds. When he was 8 years old, he visited the Natural History Museum in London, and was amazed at the thousands of different butterflies that were on display.

David studied sciences at university before joining the Navy, then he worked publishing science books for school. Sir David eventually began working in television and became famous for his programmes based on nature such as Life on Earth, The Living Planet, The Blue Planet and Planet Earth.

Sir David has had eleven plant and animal species named after him including a 190 million year old reptile called Attenborosaurus!



Science book/website recommendations

[Glossary of UK Animals \(gatekeeperel.co.uk\)](http://gatekeeperel.co.uk)

If you want to learn more about animals which you might find in your garden, click on the link above.



Science challenges- spider hunt



You will need: Plain paper

Pencil

4 x sticks or rulers

Elastic bands or string.

A spider ID guide (optional) [The NHBS Guide to UK Spider Identification](#)

What to do (inside):

1. Go on a spider safari around your home!
2. Carefully explore where you live looking for spiders.
3. If you find one draw what it looks like.
4. You could also try and identify what type of spider it is.

Science skill: Looking for patterns-What do you notice?

How many types of spider did you find?

Which type of spider was most common? Where do spiders like to live?

What do spiders eat?

Can you find spiders anywhere else, e.g. balcony, shed, garage, garden?

Did you find any baby spiders? Or spider's eggs? Do the babies look like the adults?

What to do (outside):

1. Tie 4 sticks or rulers together with rubber bands or string to make a frame.
2. Choose a piece of ground and put down the frame.
3. Identify how many different living things you can find inside the frame and record what they are.
4. Now choose another piece of ground and repeat the above.

Science skill: Looking for patterns-What do you notice?

Where did you find the most/least living things?

What types of plants and animals did you find?

What was the most interesting thing you found?

Science challenges- spider hunt

What is the science behind this?

There are 650 different species of spider found in the UK. Several of them share where we live; some stay the whole year round, whilst others have just found their way in through open windows or gaps beneath doors. Spiders are very important in our environment. They are eco-friendly pest controllers as they help to control the numbers of many nuisance household pests, like flies and clothes moths.

Living things include plants, like grass, trees and shrubs, and animals which will mostly be invertebrates (without backbones) like, slugs, woodlice, beetles, ants, bees, spiders, butterflies and woodlice. Ants, bees, butterflies and beetles are insects - they each have six legs. Spiders have eight legs and are not insects - they are called **arachnids**.

To help your child at home, you could try some of these top tips:

- Look in your garden, playground or on the village field and see if you can identify different habitats. If you go on holiday or to the beach at Skegness you could compare the different habitats.
- What animals live in those habitats? Remember there may be some animals which you cannot see but you may find evidence of them such as feathers from the birds or footprints of the fox etc.

IMPORTANT NOTICE: These activities are designed to be carried out by children working with a parent, guardian or other appropriate adult. The adult involved is fully responsible for ensuring that the activities are carried out safely.

TopTip