

Reception News

27.03.26

Dear Parents and Carers,

This week our focus story has been Farmer Duck. This was a favourite in class and the children loved spending time acting out different parts of the story. The story offered lots of opportunities to build on our comprehension skills and we spent time digging deeper into the text. We used our phonics to help us write corresponding speech bubbles for different characters in the story. The children came up with some wonderfully creative and original ideas. The children loved the story and kept talking about our ducklings and if they were working hard on the farm. This week we have also been learning about the different animals that hatch from eggs, everyone was surprised that crocodiles lay eggs and that as babies they are called hatchlings.

This week, the children have used practical contexts to sort objects according to different criteria. They were encouraged to notice different attributes in groups of objects – such as colour, size or function – and to describe what they noticed. Sorting and classifying are important early years' skills that encourage children to identify similarities and differences. These skills also support problem solving and the development of data analysis.

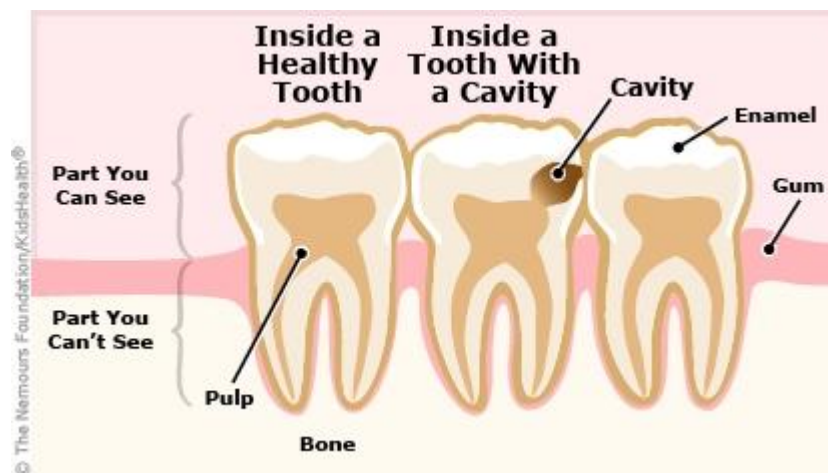
Alongside this, they have continued to practise recalling the composition of numbers as doubles. Then, towards the end of the week, they applied their sorting skills to numbers and investigated ways to sort the Numberblocks. They used their previous experience of investigating doubles to begin to practically explore even and odd numbers. Within the context of building Numberblocks characters, they investigated when a number can be composed of 2 equal parts.

Oral Health

The Government have asked that Early Years settings support parents with their child's oral health. Each fortnight we will share facts and tips on how you can support your child looking after their teeth.

How Can We Prevent Cavities?

Cavities happen when bacteria and food left on the teeth after eating are not brushed away. Acid collects on a tooth, softening its enamel until a hole — or cavity — forms.



Here's how to keep cavities away:

Start good oral habits early. Teach kids to brush at least twice a day with fluoride toothpaste and to floss regularly.

Get enough fluoride. Regular use of fluoride toughens the enamel, making it harder for acid to penetrate. Although many towns require tap water to be fluoridated, others don't. If your water supply is not fluoridated or if your family uses purified water, ask your dentist for fluoride supplements. Most toothpastes contain fluoride but toothpaste alone will not fully protect a child's teeth. Be careful, however, since too much fluoride can cause tooth discoloration. Check with your dentist before supplementing.

Limit or avoid some foods. Sugary foods, juices, candy (especially sticky gummy candy, gummy vitamins, or fruit leather or "roll-ups") can erode enamel and cause cavities. If your kids eat these foods, have them rinse their mouth or brush their teeth after eating to wash away the sugar. The same goes for taking sweetened liquid medicines: always have kids rinse or brush afterward.

Weekly Phonics

Our focus for the week:

The grapheme 's' can make the sound /z/ within words and at the end of words as a suffix e.g., visit.

The suffix '-s' and '-es' at the end of words can create plurals and the present tense of verbs e.g., fishes.

Our phase 3 tricky words to practise:

they all by my are sure pure

Look Listen and Note:

Can the children hold their pencils correctly and use them to form recognisable letters?

Can the children hear the sounds in the words?

Can the children write the sounds?

Can the children write a sentence including a capital letter, finger spaces and a full stop?

Can the children use new vocabulary appropriately?

Can the children explain what a speech bubble is?

Can the children talk about the main events in the story?

Can the children say who the characters in the story are?

Can the children think of their own ideas for what you would like to write in a speech bubble?

Can the children retell parts of the story of Farmer Duck?

Can the children talk about what the story of Farmer Duck taught them?

Can the children think about what the characters in the story might be thinking/feeling?

Can the children respond to a story?

Can the children verbally tell a story?

Can the children take turns to act out a story?

We have reached the end of our second term in reception. It is hard to believe that we only have 1 term left.

Have an amazing Easter holiday and we look forward to seeing you back in school on Monday 13th April.

Mrs Harrison and the Acorn Team