



Spring Grove Primary School

Reception Homework and News

Friday 2nd December 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

The book 'The Gruffalo's Child' has been the basis of the learning in Reception Class this week! The children started the week by looking at the front cover and making predictions about where the story might be set. They talked about the snow and decided it must be set somewhere cold in the winter months. Many children in the class were familiar with the story and enjoyed sharing their experiences of the book. We read up to the point in the story where the Gruffalo describes the big, bad Mouse talking about how scary he looks. We asked the children to draw a picture of what they thought the mouse would look like based on the description and explained that describing words are also called adjectives. After drawing their pictures, the children wrote some key words that they thought of when they heard the Gruffalo talk about the mouse and did a great job of using their phonics to do so.

After reading the whole story, we drew the children's attention to the fact that the story is full of pairs of rhyming words. We challenged the children to look through the book with their teacher and identify as many rhyming words as they could. They also played rhyming bingo with words they could sound and blend, which they really enjoyed! The children talked about how each of the animals in the story left tracks in the snow and that was how the Gruffalo's child was able to find them. We talked about other ways we could find our way around places and how useful maps can be. We encouraged the children to create their own maps using the journey the Gruffalo's child took as a starting point. We talked about the kinds of things you would find on a map and we were so impressed with what the children created.

The children thought about the weather where we live as a starting point and compared it to other places. We chose places that were familiar to the children because they had either visited or had family there. We looked at pictures showing the weather and talked about what was the same and what was different. The children enjoyed talking about the different places in the world they knew and investigating where they are with support using an atlas. We are hoping to create a display celebrating the different places we are from and the languages we speak in Reception class after Christmas.

In maths, we have been helping the children to explain how they know things and give simple reasons for their answers. An example of this is when ordering numerals, we asked the children to use the language one more or less to justify why a numeral had been placed on a number line. We have also been comparing amounts and using the language fewer than, more than and equal to.

Ideas to support your child at home-

- I have assigned your child a sound that I know they are struggling with in school on our Google Classroom, please watch the video so you are able to support them at home. Please note that different children have different sounds to practise.
- I have included a link to an interactive rhyming game to help your child practise identifying rhyming words. This game is great as it speaks the words out loud meaning that your child doesn't have to be able to read them to decide if they rhyme or not. I hope they enjoy playing!

Have a wonderful weekend!

Mrs Lloyd, Mrs Kotecha and Miss Manlow ☺

The Spring Grove Way: personal and academic excellence, everyone, every day.

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