

Go Wild Spring I – Year I

YEAR I HAVE HAD A GREAT TIME
OUTDOORS. I HOPE YOU ENJOY
SHARING THEIR FABULOUS
LEARNING EXPERIENCES.

MISS HILL

OUTDOOR LEAD

Team Games

Our Go Wild sessions always start with a game.

Our games help develop key skills such as listening and attention, effective communication, teamwork and help to build trusting relationships. They also support the children's understanding about nature and how to keep safe outdoors, particularly when handling and being amongst nature.

It's also important to keep warm and active during colder weather.



Exploration and Self Discovery

Time is given to the children to make choices about what they want to learn about outdoors. They have opportunities to work in different friendship groups and develop new interests, fascinations, to learn from first hand experiences and from each other.

Go Wild sessions offer opportunities for repeated practise. The children can choose to engage in the same or similar tasks each week, developing particular skills in that area. This also allows them to build upon existing ideas and develop knowledge further; ultimately leading to increased self esteem.



Big Bird Watch

We learnt about the importance of looking after birds, especially throughout the winter.

We made apple bird feeders to put up around the school grounds to attract the birds.

The children worked together to create their feeders, developing fine motor skills and communication skills, chatting as they carried out their activity. They also had opportunities to support and encourage their peers. Well done to those who made some bird feed at home too – thank you for sharing it with us.



Class Competition

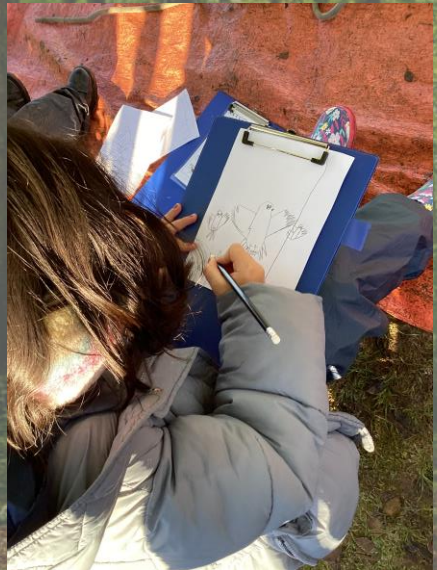
As part of the Big Bird Watch, Year 1 classes were set a collaborative challenge to build a bird nest...as a class.
Co-operation, team work and communication skills were key to each classes success. Of course, they were able to celebrate their success together too.





Bird Identification

The children were interested in identifying different birds and were talking about those they already knew of. Some of the children chose to do some observational drawing using the bird identification sheets.



Den Building

Den building equipment is available every week. There have been groups of children that have shown interest in building their own dens and refining their techniques over the half term. Peers have been inspired to join in and help with the build or have enjoyed the results, using the dens for imaginative play games. Co-ordination, problem solving, creativity, fine and gross motor skills, initiative, resilience and communication are all areas the children are developing while engaging in this activity.



Gross motor skills

Being outdoors naturally provides an opportunity to develop gross motor skills. These have included; playing games on and off the hill, using the tree swing and playing football using a stone!

Exploring the digging area is always popular. Of course, the conversations between the children are endless too. I particularly loved listening to them chat about discovering 'fossils' and 'real dinosaur bones'. Observations and 'talk' about the hardness of the soil due to the changes in weather have risen too.





Nature Painting

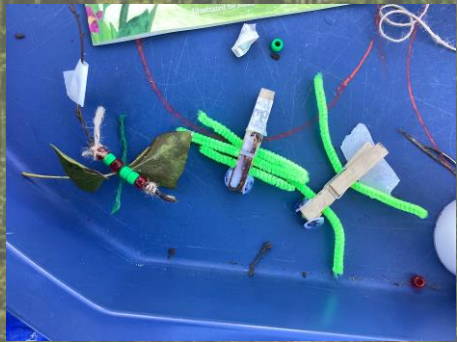
We explored using nature to make paint, mixing together mud, water and food colouring. Exploring the consistency of the paint was fun and encouraged science-based observations. We made our easels from branches and canes.

Fine motor skills were developed from tying and wrapping string, using brushes and manipulating pegs to put up the paintings.



Habitats

We started to learn about different habitats. We began making a minibeast habitat in preparation for the warmer weather and to provide our little crawly friends somewhere to reside. We dug out an old overgrown flower bed, raked the ground flat and laid slabs to create a centre path. We added a rock boundary and then broke up rotting bark to spread over the ground as well as making log piles for all the insects to hide in and under. We also made a vertical home. A great team effort! The Year 1 classes also had opportunity to make their own minibeasts too, combining natural and man-made materials.



“What I’ve learnt is how to be safe on the rope swing. I’ve learnt about digging and to be kind to nature”.
Sharia

“I like Go Wild because I like making a mud pie in the digging place, because it’s all muddy and you get to play in mud”. Frankie

“I like Go Wild because me and Patrick made campfires”. Amber

“I like Go Wild because I like looking after nature”.

“I’m going to be REALLY REALLY sad when we can’t go to Go Wild anymore”. Daniel

What the children think!

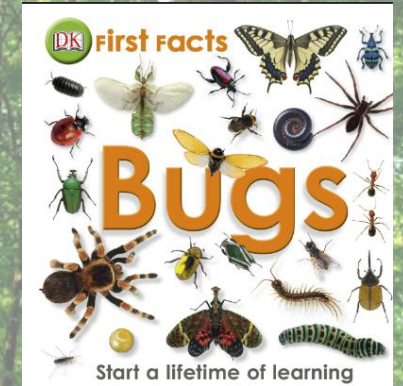
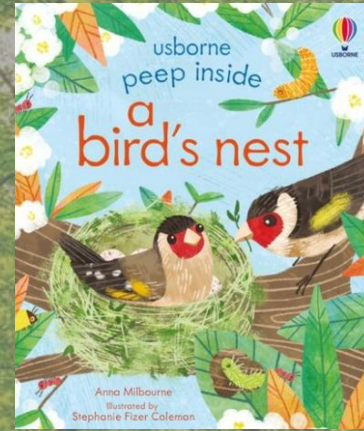
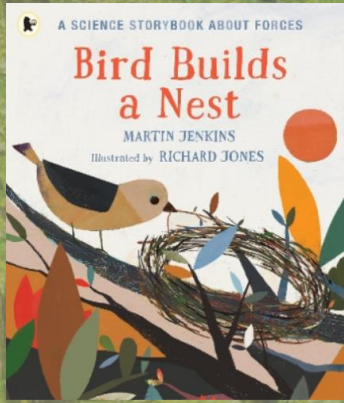
“I’ve learnt to be kind to nature and to each other ”.
Annam

“I like the mud kitchen because we made special stuff, like pretend chocolate cake”.
Rayyan

“I like the ball run. I like putting the ball on and watching it roll around”. Elliot

“I like Go Wild because I like the digging. I was making holes so the bugs could see where they were going”. Theo

“I like digging holes”.



Books we have shared

Most Go Wild sessions are linked to a story or theme and include both fiction and non-fiction texts.

The Year 1 children have thoroughly enjoyed their Go Wild sessions and as you can see from the photos, the children are always very busy and levels of engagement are high. The cooler weather provides a variety of learning opportunities which is why we continue Go Wild through the winter months. Being outdoors has health and wellbeing benefits, we ensure the children are suitably dressed for the weather, which enables them to enjoy their sessions and learn in an outdoor environment. I look forward to taking Year 1 outdoors again soon, during the summer term. *Miss Hill*