

## Hedgehog Experts

We have had a brilliant week learning about hedgehogs. We were lucky enough to have a visit from Heather the hedgehog expert who runs a hedgehog hospital. We got to meet one of her hedgehogs, Pico who we had the opportunity to stroke and learnt so many interesting facts about hedgehogs too! Inspired by our visit, we made our very own hedgehog hospital. We have been painting and drawing hedgehogs and using words like spiky, prickly and snuffly to describe them. We learnt about what hedgehogs like to eat and made a hedgehog cafe in the mud kitchen. We used clay to make our own hedgehogs and then made homes for them! We have also been busy exploring apples after reading one of our hedgehog stories. We have been weighing apples, ordering them by size, taste testing them, chopping them, using them in the water tray, counting them and we even turned our mud kitchen into an apple pie shop! One of our favourite ideas was to design and make our own apple picking machines with conveyor belts, grabbing arms, sucking hoses and apple sweeping brushes! We were excited to watch videos of real apple picking machines in action and used them to inspire our own designs!

Next week's Big Idea - Autumn!

After the half term holidays we will learn more about Autumn and the changing seasons. We will investigate the inside of our pumpkins, picking out the seeds ready to plant in our vegetable patch and using interesting words like squishy, mushy, gooey, wet, stringy and hard to talk about the pumpkin with our friends. We will also be talking about autumnal fruits and harvest. If you have any pumpkins that you would like to donate to school then we would be very appreciative so that we can compare the different varieties, sizes and appearances. After halloween has been and gone if you have any carved pumpkins that you no longer need we would love to have them at school for our Autumn week too!

The Big Challenge - Why not go for an Autumn walk? Look out for signs of Autumn and collect some interesting leaves or conkers. Maybe you could draw what you find or even have a go at writing a list.

Use the Autumn objects you find to explore counting. Can your child match numbers to groups of objects or count out the right amount when you show them a number? Maybe you could explore different ways of making 5 or 10. As Bonfire night approaches, you could create a picture of fireworks? You could use felt tips, crayons, paint or even sequins, glitter and crunched up tissue paper. Can you label your picture with some words to describe the fireworks, e.g sparkly, loud, crackly...

Have fun exploring and learning at home! Don't forget to share what you've been up to with us on Tapestry!

