

A Note From Miss Amy

The end of year topic that we have explored is 'how can we learn outside when we are inside?' In Nursery Class we have used our local Bath parks as our cultural centre to explore this question. Bath's parks have been a very familiar topic for nursery children and they quickly became engaged in exploring our local environment and its wildlife, nature, seasons and the weather.



Active Storytelling

Over the past year, in Nursery we have enjoyed learning and acting out familiar stories.

This term we have decided to create our own very own story called 'We're Going to the Park Today', inspired by We're Going on a Bear Hunt.

We have enjoyed the repetitive and familiar phrases and especially love the active movements.

We have worked very hard to practice it each day and are very proud of our videos. We hope you enjoy it.

Olive:

I'm going to a real
park today! I can
play in the park

Emmelia:

I put on suncream
when I go to the
park in the
sunshine!

Lily:

I caught a rainbow butterfly!
Look, it so pretty

Seth:

We can climb trees at the park
on the way home. We can climb
up super high. 'cos we're good
at climbing. We do it with
Daddy

Alban:

For my picnic, I will eat
chocolate!
And strawberries!
And sandwiches!



We're Going to The Park Today





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In June we also celebrated National Insect Week, which fit perfectly with our topic. This helped to initiate our topic learning as we started to explore who lives in our parks and gardens. The children enjoyed searching for bugs, learning about and identifying different minibeasts and making homes for them in our nursery garden.



We created our own model park for our small world play.

We worked hard to create swings, bridges, duck ponds and park essentials with junk modelling. We even remembered to create a bin so we could keep our park clean!

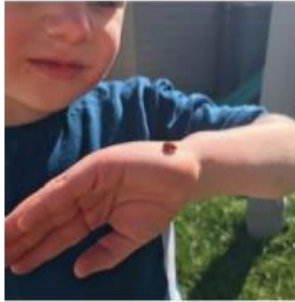
We even made an ice-cream van and took on the role as an icecream vender.



We started to think about who lives in our parks. We explored a range of wildlife, including bugs, ducks, birds and nocturnal animals. We were especially interested in...

BUGS!

We went bug crazy and searched for bugs, made bug homes, sang bug nursery rhymes, made butterfly kites and even wrote letters to bugs.



What does a park mean to us?

We had great fun making dens and enjoyed game, stories and a snack in our den.

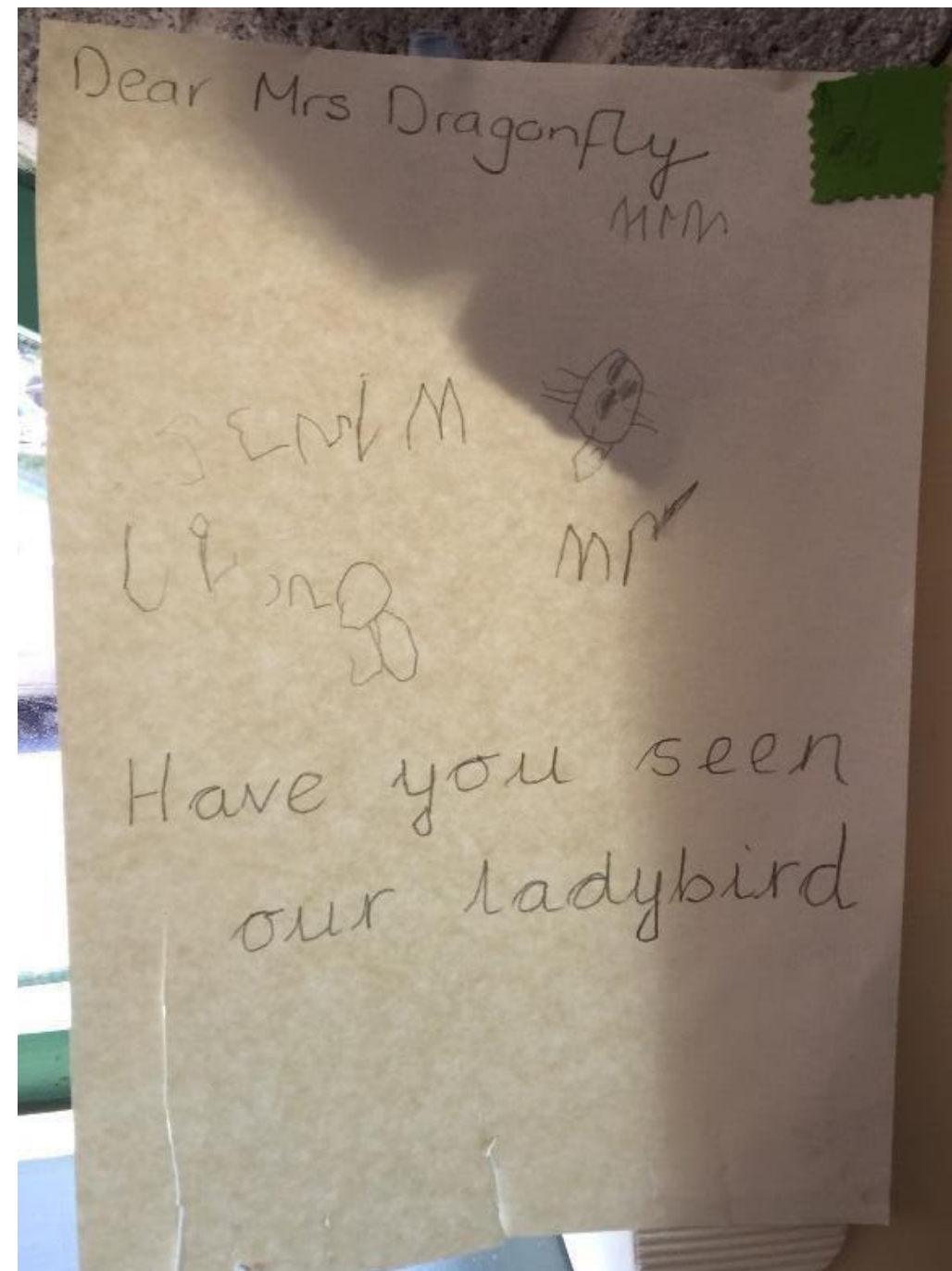
We talked about what we have done on our trips to the parks and enjoyed recreating this fun, through playing with bubbles, flying kites and enjoying picnics.

We also enjoyed tuning in to outside noises and sounds we would hear at a park or garden, such as birds singing, bees, ducks and bikes. Some children also enjoyed trips to the park with their family.



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We also had a go at writing letters to different minibeast, asking questions to deepen our minibeast knowledge. Alongside this we thought about nocturnal animals and birds and particularly enjoyed listening out for singing birds.





Hideouts and Dens



Hideouts and Dens

Hideouts and Dens



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We have also focused on the landscape and nature in our environment and the importance of plants, trees and flowers. We had a great time exploring fruits and vegetables to gather seeds as well as being gardeners to plant and look after them. We have since been investigating the growth and changes of these plants over time.



Plants and their Transformations

During lockdown, the Nursery children have focused on planting and watching things grow and develop.

This has influenced to children to think about the nature in their environment and while talking about our local parks, the children noticed how important the nature around them is.

To develop our thinking, we have explored seeds and pips and how we can grow fruits, vegetables and plants.

Seth: The plants make it so colourful!

We shared the story 'The Extraordinary Gardener'.

This story shared our thoughts on how lovely it is to have plants in our environment

This got us excited to find seeds and pips that we can plant.



Arthur: I haven't done planting before

Then, we explored the seeds for a while and shared our observations. During this time, children began to notice other pips and seeds, such as in their snack.

When we were ready, we began planting, thinking about all the things a plant needs to grow.

While eating snack

Alban: My apple has pips. Let's put it with others

Ezra: I have seeds on my bread. We can grow them



David: They will grow very slow



Ezra: I'm growing strawberries at Mummy's. It's taking ages to do.



As well as planting the seeds, we thought about the fruit and vegetable scraps and wondered if they would regrow.

We placed carrot tops, potato, leak, lettuce and celery scraps into water and observed the changes each day.

Some children chose to investigate if pear and pepper scraps would also regrow.

We were so excited to watch the scraps grow, a little bit each day. We were also very interested to learn that our investigation with pear and pepper did not work out.

Lily looking through a magnifying glass: It looks lovely! I can see it growing

Nyla: WOAHI! Look at the cress growing! Birds will love to eat this cress

Rosie: Shall we put pepper in too? To see if it grows?

Olive: And pear!

Jude: When the vegetables grow, we can eat it

Rosie: The carrot will drink up all the water. It will soak up



Next, we explored a range of vegetables to investigate where we might find pips and seeds. This was interesting and we noticed some vegetables, such as carrots did not have any!

We also worked hard to hold and use a safety-knife correctly, this encouraged us to talk about our cooking experiences at home with our families.

Olive: The pear seeds are so tiny. Shall we see if they grow?



Seb: I can see 1, 2 apple seeds



Olive: it's tricky to cut the carrots. The pepper is easiest to cut.



How many cress seeds have we found?

Nyla: 100!



Lilly: I can tell my Mummy I know how to cut





Gardening

Gardening





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But most importantly, we have explored what does a park mean to us? This has been our opportunity to share our past experiences and memories that are important and the special times with our families. We have been confident when sharing these personal thoughts and ideas as well as proudly sharing the new skills that we have learnt in a park, such as riding a bike or climbing a tree.



Exploring Green Spaces

Playing Outdoors





Inspired by Nature

