

Dear Ladybirds and Bumblebees,

This week we would love for you to try to create a story map for one of your favourite stories. You can use the backwards 'S' like we do at school and like the one at the end of the newsletter. Can you add any words or captions to your story map?

We can't wait to see what you come up with!

Love Buzz and Lottie



Week beginning 24th February 2025

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back! The children have returned to school full of excitement, eager to share their half-term adventures with us. It has been wonderful hearing their stories, and we've been so impressed with how ready they are to dive back into learning.

This week, there has been a real buzz of enthusiasm as we introduced our new theme: Big Blue Sea. We've started reading *A New Home for a Pirate*, and earlier in the week, the children helped Pirate Jed find his lost gems—what an adventure! They have also completed their Cold Tasks for this term, showing fantastic concentration and motivation. We are so proud of their hard work and determination.

In Maths, we have been exploring positional language, using words like *under*, *over*, *beside*, and *behind* to describe locations. We've also begun recognising the repeating patterns in numbers beyond 20, such as understanding that a number ending in 2 always follows one ending in 1. The children have shown great curiosity and enthusiasm in their learning. They are excellent pattern- spotters!

Beyond Maths and English, we've introduced some basic Spanish! This week, the children learned how to say *hello (hola)* and *good morning (buenos días)*. We also had important discussions about fire safety.

A huge thank you for your continued support in fostering a love of reading at home. Reading together makes such a difference! If you have any school reading books or sharing books at home, please return them in your child's book bag so we can replenish our collection.

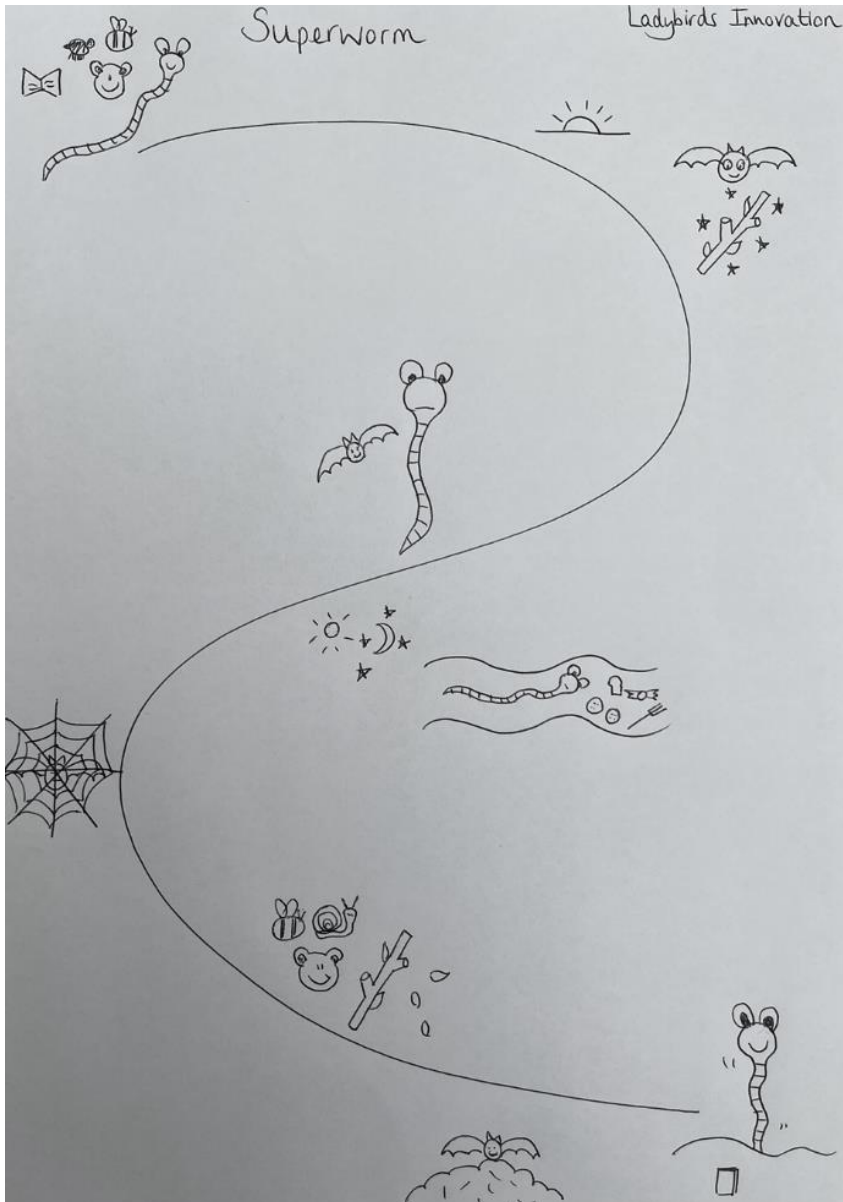
Next Thursday is one of our favourite days of the year—World Book Day! This year, there's no need to dress up, but we'll be exploring the wonderful book *Where The Wild Things Are*. We can't wait to share this magical story with the children.

Lastly, if you have any recyclable materials at home, we would love donations for our junk modelling activities. Toilet and kitchen roll tubes would be especially useful for our pirate-themed crafts, but we also welcome small boxes, egg cartons, and clean plastic bottles. Your contributions are always greatly appreciated—thank you in advance!

Wishing you all a wonderful weekend.

Best regards,
The Foundation Team

Story map example:



You could use these prompts to help you if you want to make up your own story:



Once upon a time



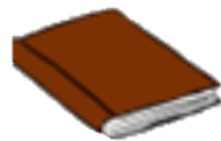
Early one morning



Unfortunately



Luckily



In the end

Vocabulary we will be introducing next week:

The Natural World

- Route – a particular way of getting from one place to another
- Destination – a place that a person is going to or goods are being sent to

Spanish

- Me llamo (my name is)

Shopping

This game is to help your child learn pronouns; **he**, **she** and **they**.

To play this game you will need some everyday objects from around the house e.g. a cup, book, spoon, car, glove, empty food boxes or fruit and vegetables. You will also need some soft toys, or small figures to be the customers.

Set up a 'shop' on a table or the floor. Let your child be the shop keeper while you use the soft toys or small figures to be the customers.

Ask your child to serve each customer by asking you what **he**, **she** or **they** would like. Remember to use the pronouns in your answers so your child hears the words lots of times,

e.g. '**He** would like some grapes, **she** would like some cornflakes and **they** would like ice-creams.'

Let your child be the customer sometimes and tell you what the customer wants.

You may have to encourage your child to use the right words. If your child makes a mistake repeat the correct word for them,

e.g child: 'Him want crisps.'
adult: 'Oh, **he** wants the crisps. Here you are.'

Variations:

To make this game easier work on just one pronoun at a time.

To make this game harder use lots of items and customers.

