Dear Parents,

We have really enjoyed looking at all Tapestry photos and videos of you all having lots of fun and learning in the spring sunshine. Please keep them coming!

As well as the activities on Tapestry here are some more activities that you can do together. This weeks adult-led activity suggestion we thought it might be nice to play a home-made butterfly game. This will cover the following areas of the EYFS: PSE, PD, Maths, EAD, CL, Literacy and UW.

Look at the picture of the butterfly at the end of ‘The Very Hungry Caterpillar’, or look again at the Monarch butterfly clip. Encourage your child to look at the shapes of the body, wings, antennae, eyes, etc. Using a thick crayon encourage your child to try to draw the butterfly body shape, then separately draw the wings, eyes, mouth, nose antennae, etc. Encourage them to make them all as large as they can by demonstrating first.

Once drawn encourage your child to try to cut out the larger pieces using scissors. Demonstrate the correct scissor hold as required and reposition where necessary. Once all the pieces are cut out encourage your child to colour them in.

Once all the pieces are ready number them, or draw spots on to represent the number, whichever is appropriate for your child. For example, wings – 1/1 spot, nose – 2/2 spots, eyes – 3/3 spots, antennae – 4/4 spots, mouth – 5/5 spots, legs – 6/6 spots. See if your child can recognise the numbers as you write them, or encourage your child to have a go at writing them. You’ll need the number of butterflies for the number of players, so maybe siblings can make one too, or a parent. Now you’re ready to play.

Place the butterfly bodies on the table and then take it in turns to throw the dice. You can either use a spot dice or a number dice, whichever is appropriate for your child. Encourage them to count the spots or say the number they have thrown. If they throw a 3 they add one eye, if they throw a 4 they add one antennae, etc. The winner is the first to make a full butterfly.

Have fun!

Additional Activities

Get out in the garden and draw butterflies, caterpillars, bees, spiders, ladybirds, etc. on the patio or garden walls using chalk to colour them in.

Draw the outline of butterflies on the patio and then look for natural resources in the garden that you can decorate them with – use leaves, grass, flowers, pebbles, etc.

Act out the life cycle of a caterpillar. Start off as a tiny egg, curled up in a ball, munch you way out of your shell, crawl around looking for tasty leaves, etc. Finally, burst out of your cocoon and fly around your garden.