

# What's happening in The Hive this week?

Week beginning: 14.01.19

The focus of the midterm planning is winter. The children are researching winter using iPads and books in the nursery. This week the research will be about birds and how we can look after the birds in the winter. Outside the children will be observing the different birds we have in the garden and using bird spotter sheets to see how many different birds we have in our garden and forest. Last week they spotted two varieties of birds and we are hoping to encourage more birds into the garden. The children will be building a bird hide to observe the birds and using observation sheets to identify the variety of birds we have. They will be able to make their own binoculars to help them search for birds. We want to encourage more birds into our garden and will be making a variety of bird feeders to attract different birds. We will be making bird feeders from reclaimed materials and ensure the birds are fed daily.

There will be a winter animal enhancement to explore and there are factual books about winter to research with. The children will be looking at a range of pictures of winter and linking their experiences of winter to the pictures. The children will have a winter enhancement in the creative studio and painting their own winter pictures. They will be able to make winter sculptures too. White will be added to our paint mixing station and they will be learning about shades of colour. We will also be learning five new winter rhymes!

The gluing area has been rearranged and last week the children built some amazing models using junk modelling materials. We added silver foil to the provision and the children have been exploring its properties and starting to add it to their models. Each model the children make has a story behind it and your children will enjoy sharing that story with you.

**Garden:** the focus outside is birds and thinking about how we look after them in the winter. The children will be looking for signs of winter. Last week they were ice detectives and went on an ice hunt with Jen and were very excited when they found ice hiding in different areas of the garden. They will be making their own ice this week.

**Forest School:** the children will be continuing their Forest School experiences.

They will be bird spotting in the forest and making bird feeders from recycled resources. We are taking part in the RSPB Big Garden Birdwatch which is from January 26<sup>th</sup> – 28<sup>th</sup> and we want to encourage as many birds as we can into our forest and gardens

## What can you do at home to support your child's learning?

***Make a bird feeder from recycled materials. Hang it in your garden or on your balcony. It is amazing how quickly birds find out where the feeders are!***