

Find out

Snails and slugs are quite similar and both belong to the group of animals called molluscs. Find out more about snails and slugs here:

<https://www.dkfindout.com/uk/animals-and-nature/squid-snails-and-shellfish/snails-and-slugs/>

Some animals like to eat snails, slugs and other small creatures. Find out about them here:

<https://www.dkfindout.com/uk/animals-and-nature/insect-eaters/> Have you got any of these creatures around your garden or near where you live?

Blackbirds Class - Reception

The work for this fortnight is inspired by snails. For some snail information, listen to the book 'Are You a Snail?' on the school Youtube channel. <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC7-Qw9F73s5S2cecP3J8cfQ/videos>

Explore

Have a look around your garden or when you are out and about. See if you can find any snails. What sort of places do they like to hide?

Snails move very slowly. Have a go at setting up your own snail race. Here is a clip of the Snail Racing World Championships:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xusFIWYo6C8>

You will need something smooth for the snails to move over, for example, a large sheet of paper or plastic. The snails need it to be damp, so it is good to spray the snail race track with water. They will not go in a straight line, so the best way to race them is from the middle outwards.

Find a way of timing your snails - how long do they take?

Remember to put your snails back in their home habitat afterwards.

Present

If a snail could talk, what would it tell us about its life? Have a go at drawing some pictures of snails and then making some speech bubbles for them. The snails might tell us about what they eat or where they live, or perhaps they have had an exciting snailish adventure. Remember, when you draw a speech bubble, do your writing first and then draw the bubble afterwards, otherwise it is far too hard to fit your writing into it.



Wonder

Snails are very unusual animals and are amazing to look at. Find a snail and quietly watch it as it comes out of its shell. See if you can spot how it moves and what the different parts of it are for. If you can, put a snail on a piece of glass or clear plastic and watch it from underneath. Snails are amazing! What animals do you think are incredible and why?

Create

Snail shells form in a spiral. Spirals are lovely shapes to use as inspiration for exploring patterns and arrangements. Andy Goldsworthy is a famous artist who makes his art from natural materials, but he is not the only person doing this. Here is some inspiration for outdoor art from the artists James Brunt and Emily Blincoe:

<https://www.architecturendesign.net/james-brunt-natural-materials-land-art-england/>

When you go out and about, look for things you could collect and use to make a beautiful piece of spiral art. You might use pebbles at the beach, leaves in the woods or make a collection of empty snail shells that you could use. You may want to leave your art for someone else to find, to make them smile. Remember to take photos of what you have made!

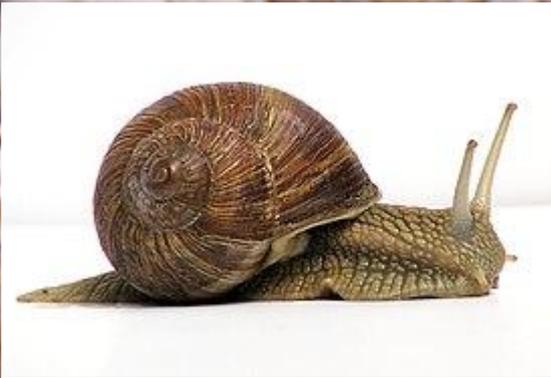


Make a Difference

Can you make a home for minibeasts in your garden or near where you live? There are all sorts of bug hotels or insect homes that you can make. This clip gives you some ideas of how to build a bug hotel: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=f9-WzFWiZK4> When you have made your minibeast home, draw a picture of it and label what you have made and who might live in which part of it. Watch it carefully and see who moves in. Remember, we would love to see photos of what you make!

Your Choice

What else would like to find out about snails, or other small creatures that live in damp places or in the soil?



Maths with 'The Snail and The Whale'

To go with this unit of work, there is a week of White Rose maths all based on Julia Donaldson's book, 'The Snail and The Whale'.

You can watch the BBC version of the book here:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/iplayer/episode/m000cslw/the-snail-and-the-whale>

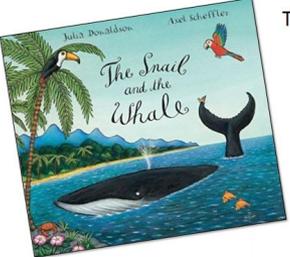
Here is a link to a reading of the book:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=G_8QS_nyzM8

The unit of work can be found here:

<https://whiterosemaths.com/homelearning/early-years/> It is the week labelled 1st June (don't worry about the date). There are lots of activities for each day and they all follow the planning for Reception that we use in school.

Starting with a Story Reception



These activities and ideas are based around the book "The Snail and the Whale" By Julia Donaldson.

All activities could be done without the book!

White Rose Maths

Starting with a Story Reception

Talking Together

You will need:



Wraps, chocolate spread and a knife to spread and cut.
Spread your spread all over your wrap.
Roll up tightly.
Cut into slices



See the snail shells!

Have fun eating some subtraction snails!



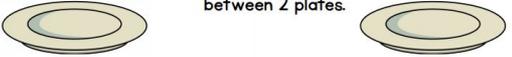
White Rose Maths

Starting with a Story

Talking Together

Odds and evens - use a ten frame to help you if you want.
Remember the numbers are even if they can be shared equally between two groups.

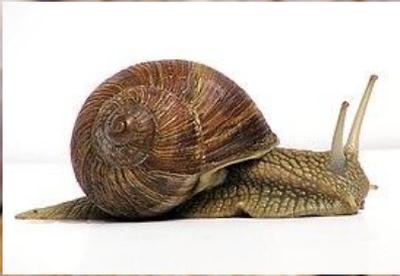
You could even use plates and see if the number could share between 2 plates.



White Rose Maths

Remember:

As well as the 'Snail and The Whale' activities, keep on practising counting up to 20 and beyond and also recognising and writing numbers up to 20 and beyond.



Snail Key Skills

ai

Remind yourself of the sound ai.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=siVkXoEQDNc&feature=youtu.be>

Practise writing 'snail' and see what other words you can find that have ai in them.

Now have a go at learning some of the reception sounds that you have not yet done.

This site has all the phonics sounds and combinations that you need to know this term:

<https://wandleenglishhub.org.uk/lettersandsounds/reception>

If you would like a chance to go over blending words, have a look at this site:

<https://wandleenglishhub.org.uk/lettersandsounds/learning-to-blend>

Snail Handwriting

Practise your careful pencil control skills by drawing spirals. Start from the middle and work your way out. See if you can draw different sized spirals and if you can decorate them with different colours.

Log onto the Oxford Owl site and find some e-books to read.

https://www.oxfordowl.co.uk/for-home/find-a-book/library-page/?view=image&query=&type=book&age_group=Age+4-5&level=&level_select=&book_type=&series=#

Have a go at reading 'Big Bad Bug' or 'Toads on the Road'. See what other books you would like to read and have a go at reading them.

You should have a login from before Easter, but if not, it is easy to get your grown-up to create one for free.

