

## Learning Journal 4.11.16

This week....we went into the rainforest and we have been looking at animals and plants that live there. There are some great BBC clips of life in the rainforest if you want to do some research at home. We made vines and snakes to hang from the ceiling to give our classroom a jungle feel. We have also been busy preparing for the Christmas play. Yes it *is* that time already! We read the Christmas story and asked the children what roles they would like to play. The first four children to answer chose to be a cat, God, Baby Jesus and a ghost. So who knows what is to come in our nativity play this year. It is definitely a work in progress!

The rest of the week involved some very hard work to earn our lolly sticks by Friday. We also began to fill our new raised beds with soil and compost with the help of our toddler group children. It was very muddy work.

### Literacy and Phonics

We used our binoculars to search the rainforest and made lists of everything we could see through them. The children loved them and we took them to woodland workshop and carried them everywhere with us outside. Some reception children have new sounds in their book bags to practise at home. Please look at these as often as possible as they are so important at this stage.

### Mathematics

We practised using correct positional language, and played games to help our understanding of positional words such as below, above, next to, under, beside etc. We took our teddies to Woodland workshop to practise this language and had lots of fun hiding them and describing where they were. We also wrote and ordered our numbers onto number vines.



Walking to woodland workshop with our teddies.



Singing with them and hiding them.



Help at Home.....try giving instructions to put a toy on top of, beside, under something and see if your child can follow them. Use these words when talking to children, describe where things are rather than just finding them for them so that they become experts with language. Or they can give you instructions to tell you where something is hidden.



Working  
hard in the  
garden!



Next Week.....play rehearsals will begin in earnest and your children will hopefully choose some parts that are actually featured in the Nativity story. Wish us luck!!!