




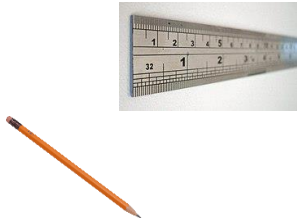




# Week 2: Underground Overground

This theme focuses on what we can and can't see in nature! Children can do some personal research or find out all about their favourite animals or creatures. Some children love insects.

<p>English</p>	<p>Read some non-fiction books on wildlife, animals, plants, trees. You can also ask your adults if they know any facts. Can you make a poster, information brochure or write a book about wild life It could be called "In my garden"</p> <p>Write instructions for planting seeds or looking after a creature/insects What have you grown? Can you write a recipe that uses something you have grown or picked. What story could you write that would also show the facts you have learnt?</p> <p>Make a chart – what grows above/below ground? What animals live above/below ground. Draw a picture and label these facts.</p>	<p>What is the difference between fiction and non-fiction? Take photos and write and identify plants, trees, animals</p> <p>Fact writing explains why something is like it is. Story writing has a beginning, middle (problem) and an end. Think about characters that match what they actually are. What would a snake be like, or a spider or a tree?</p> <div data-bbox="1344 1037 1523 1197"> </div> <div data-bbox="1836 981 1993 1181"> </div> <p>A pocket guide to bugs: <a href="http://downloads.bbc.co.uk/breathingplaces/images/loveabugguide.pdf">http://downloads.bbc.co.uk/breathingplaces/images/loveabugguide.pdf</a></p>
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	<p>Chapter Books : read Alice In Wonderland</p> <p>Write a story about walking/falling down a tunnel or hole – What is the mystery at the end?</p> <p>Write a nature alphabet poster/book</p>  <p>Compare what wildlife can be found in your garden to the beach or woods – focus on similarities and differences</p>	 
Maths	<p>Play Top Trumps that have animals or plants</p> <p>When comparing categories, which number is larger? How much larger than the other number is it? Can you say how many tens or units are in the number? Pick 5 random cards and have a go at ordering them by the number in one category.</p> <p>YR – count in 10s to 100 and back and recognise odds and evens</p> <p>Y1 Count in 5s and 2s. Can you learn these times tables?</p> <p>Y2 Count in 10s, 5s, 2s and 3s</p> <p>Have a go at measuring some leaves. You could use a ruler if you have one or you could compare leaf length to a pencil (is it shorter or longer?)</p>	<p>Make your own Top Trumps games</p> <p>Make your own wildlife SNAP game</p>   
Creative	<p>Watch some Spring Watch and draw and write down what you find interesting</p> <p>Bird Watch – Draw the birds that come into your garden</p> <p>Make a bird feeder or Hog Box</p> <p>Collect (not picked!) flowers and twigs and make some land art</p>	<p>Springwatch: <a href="https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b007qgm3">https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b007qgm3</a></p> <p>For those who want a project!</p> <p>How to make a nesting box:</p> <p><a href="https://www.rspb.org.uk/fun-and-learning/for-kids/games-and-activities/activities/make-a-nestbox/">https://www.rspb.org.uk/fun-and-learning/for-kids/games-and-activities/activities/make-a-nestbox/</a></p>

Create a Scavenger Hunt

How to make a hog box:

<https://www.rspb.org.uk/get-involved/activities/give-nature-a-home-in-your-garden/garden-activities/giveahogahome/>

or

<https://www.welshwildlife.org/wp-content/uploads/2011/07/Hedghog-box-leaflet.pdf>



Artist: Andy Goldsworthy



## Outdoor Art – Bugs, Bees and Butterflies!



Book to share!

### The Big Book of Bugs By Yuval Zommer

This is a beautifully illustrated book by Yuval Zommer. As its name suggests it is oversized and children just love to stare at the pages – soaking up the text and the gorgeous illustrations.

### Nature Bugs

Using sticks, stones and leaves make some amazing bugs! Spiders, butterflies, caterpillars, beetles, bees – the choice is yours! What will you create?



### Beetle Scratch Art

Fill a piece of card or thick paper with oil pastel. Then paint over it with a mix of black paint and washing up liquid (this helps the paint to stick to the oil pastel). You may need a few coats of this but it dries quickly in the sunshine! Once dry, gently scratch off a bug design – I used a blunt pencil for this.



### Doodle Bugs

Draw a bug in black ink. You may be lucky enough to find one to study with a magnifying glass or you can use a picture. If you have access to a photocopier, photocopy your beetle so you can fill it in lots of different ways. If not, trace it so you have several images the same. Fill your bugs with your best doodles!



### Leaf Painting

Collect some leaves and use your imagination! You could turn your leaf into a real or an imaginary creepy crawly! To create these ones I used ready mixed paint and left them to dry in the sun in between colours.



### Weave-a-Bee

Create a weaving loom from a cardboard box by cutting out an oval shape and snipping small triangles around the edge. Then use yellow and black wool to wrap around your oval to create your bee! Finish it off with some eyes and wings.



### Butterfly Sponge Printing

Use any type of sponge for this activity. Squeeze it in the middle and secure with a rubber band to make two wing shapes either side. Then paint the wings and print! Remember to keep it symmetrical! This is very easy but very effective!





**A Book to Share!**

A beautiful book to sit outside in the shade and share is 'Swirl by Swirl: Spirals in Nature' by Joyce Sidman

## Outdoor Art Ideas – Spirals and Snails!

**Huge Spirals!**

Take a snail shell as inspiration and create some huge spirals. You could use large pieces of paper and felt tips or chalks on the playground. Start small in the centre using tiny wrist movements and carry on until using your whole arm to create the outer spirals. Build up your creation by using different colours following the same spiral shape.

**Collaborative Art Make a Spiral Mobile**

Give each child in your group a paper plate. Allow them the freedom to decorate it however they choose although the brighter the better! Once they are decorated cut the plates in a spiral from the outside in. Then hang them altogether. I found a large stick on our school grounds to attach ours to and then hung from the ceiling – patterned side down. They look very striking!

**Lots of Spirals!**

This can be done on paper with felt tips or on the playground with chalks. If using the playground I find it works best if children draw themselves a frame to work within. Fill your space with swirls then try and fill the gaps with swirl parts so it looks like they are overlapping. This can be quite tricky for younger children to get to grips with but once they master it they can't stop!

**Henri Matisse – The Snail**

One of Matisse's later works – the Snail (1953) is ideal to study with younger children. Draw a spiral then using coloured paper shapes follow the concentric pattern. If there is no breeze you could take your collage materials outside to create your own interpretations.

**Observational Drawing**

Study a snail – look carefully at its shape, textures and little details. Have a go at drawing what you see. Can you shade to add depth to your picture? Give your drawing an extra touch by preparing some paper beforehand to draw on. I gave my paper watercolour stripes then used it to draw on once it had dried.

Understanding of the World

Holes  
 Manmade and made in nature. What items in your house have holes and why? What can you find outside that has holes? What are they used for?  
 Look at the ground – in your garden, in the woods, at the beach, in the park. Can you see any holes? Who/what lives in the holes? Can you tell from the size? Where do the holes go and how deep do you think they are? What needs a deep/narrow hole?





Draw a map/plan of your garden/park/woods – label everything  
Habitats – which animals/plants/flowers live in which habitats and why?  
Locate the native countries – which languages are spoken there?  
How do the species survive? What does extinct mean?  
Look at where your dinner comes from – draw your plate and the food? Where is it  
grown (under or over ground)? What climate does it need to grow? What country  
does it come from? Is it near or far? Can you work out how many miles it has  
travelled?

Year 2 children may like to watch:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/iplayer/episodes/b080z9fh/absolute-genius-monster-builds>



Physical

Animal instincts: Have pictures of a range of animals/things you would see outside. One person to pick a picture and act out that animal. Can you hop like a frog? Can you slither like a snake? Can you pounce like a lion?

Cosmic Kids yoga: Visit the website and pick some of their animal themed yoga workouts.

**Rob the nest game:** Have a 'nest' full of eggs in a central area (this could be anything you can find in your home or out and about. Socks, balls, etc) Each player to have their own nest area a few metres away from the main nest. Each player to run to the nest and take an egg back to their nest (only 1 at a time). The winner is the person with the most eggs in their nest at the end.

Go on a nature walk and see what different plants and animals you can spot.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wBdMZMEKq-s> – Stella the Stick insect.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xhWDiQRrC1Y> – Hungry Caterpillar.

Rob the nest

Personal,  
social

Can you research some conservation charities or programmes? Why are some species becoming extinct?

Make a Bug house/garden/hotel
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So now you know a little bit more about how fascinating they really are, see how many bugs you can identify in your patch.



**Ants** – Some species of ant are vegetarian, some are carnivorous and others eat both meat and vegetation.

☐ **Seen**



**Bees** – There are many different types of bee including bumblebees, honeybees and solitary bees.

☐ **Seen**



**Butterflies** – There are 56 species of butterfly in the UK and all have a fascinating life cycle – from caterpillar to butterfly.

☐ **Seen**



**Centipedes** – Centipedes are nocturnal and love the dark, so you can find them by lifting up stones or logs or digging in the ground.

☐ **Seen**



**Ladybirds** – There are 46 different types of ladybird in the UK, usually seen March to October.

☐ **Seen**



**Snails** – Found all over the UK, snails carry a hard shell on their back and move along on one long, slimy foot.

☐ **Bingo!**

Can you make a “Take your litter home” poster to look after our beaches, forests, woods etc



<https://schoolgardening.rhs.org.uk/Resources/Activity/Make-a-simple-bug-or-ladybird-home>

A pocket guide to bugs:

<http://downloads.bbc.co.uk/breathingplaces/images/loveabugguide.pdf>