Learning Planner

Reception-Autumn Term2

'The Gruffalo and Friends'

'A mouse took a stroll through the deep dark wood...'

What is Gruffalo crumble? Who is lurking behind the log pile house? Why is mouse scared? When will the mouse find the nut? Where does owl live?

This half term, we will be learning all about the Gruffalo and his friends.

Connect & Wonder

- Children will visit the forest to search for signs of woodland animal habitats from the story.
- We will develop our role play area into a dark, gloomy cave with open ended resources where children can develop their understanding and imagination. Through acting out the story using props or creating a log pile house of their own, children will be inspired!
- It's not just any crumble...it's a delicious Gruffalo crumble! But oh no! The kitchen's ovens have broken so a member of the kitchen staff will be visiting each reception classroom with a recipe for Gruffalo crumble for children to prepare, cook and enjoy!

For the Love of Reading

- This half term, we will be taking a stroll through the deep dark wood with a crafty little mouse who is pretending to be on the way to meet a Gruffalo! This fearsome beast has awesome features - terrible tusks and teeth, orange eyes, purple prickles, warts and knobbly knees - and its favourite food is, roasted fox, owl ice cream or scrambled snake....delicious right? On this journey, we will not only learn lots of new vocabulary that will be introduced by our class wizard Whizzy, but we will also use our spectacular talk for write skills which will help us to recite the story. Oh, and we certainly can't forget about our exploration and understanding of the effects of rhyme...We really just can't wait to shine!

Investigate & Construct

- **PSE:** Children will explore feelings and emotions and consider the feelings of others through links with our story of the Gruffalo and how characters might feel throughout such as angry, sad, worried, scared, relieved, hungry etc.
- **D&T:** Through hands on exploration using natural materials, Children will work collaboratively to design and construct their own habitat building on their previous learning and developing their ability to represent their ideas.
- **Art/History:** Children will be learning about Bonfire night and delve into the history of the gunpowder plot. We will also be looking back in time to discover what the poppy signifies and why we still wear them today.
- **Science:** Children will be categorising animal habitats to establish where they live and why they live there. We will be taking a closer look at a variety of animal footprints to figure out who they belong to.

Express & Reflect

In order to embed this half terms knowledge and experiences, we will be reflecting on our initial visit to the forest where all the woodland animals had disappeared.

We will visit Cannock chase for a woodland walk in search of the animals and their footprints. We hope to discover their habitats and we might even spot the GRUFFALO!

Key Vocabulary

Leaves	Tusks
Wood	Fled
Stroll	Hear
Path	Dark
Follow	Taste
Stream	Slice
Deep	Feast
Claws	
Prickles	