



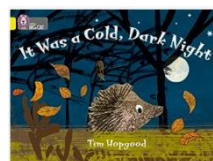
### Phonics and Reading

This week we will be learning the sounds **ss, h, b, f, ff, l and ll** and the HRS words **pull, as** and **his**. We teach children that the digraphs (two letters making one sound) ss, ff and ll usually appear at the end of words. They sound just the same as s, f and l.

Blending is the skill of putting sounds together and knowing what word they make. It is a vital reading skill. We want to suggest some games you can play at home to help your child grasp blending. This week play **"I spy"**

Place on the floor or on a table a selection of objects with one syllable names (e.g. zip, hat, cup, soap, boat, tap, ball, car). Check that your child knows the names of the objects. Say, "I spy with my little eye a z-i-p." Then invite your child to say the name of the object and hold it up. Encourage them to repeat the sounds and the word, "z-i-p, zip". Once your child has become familiar with this game use objects with names that start with the same initial sound (e.g. cat, cap, cup, cot, comb, kite). This will really encourage your child to listen and then blend right through the word, rather than relying on the initial sound.

### Literacy

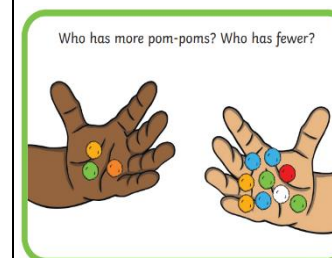


This week we will be reading the gorgeous story, "A cold dark night." This is about a hedgehog looking for a home to hibernate in. You might want to talk to your child about animals which hibernate and consider making your garden or outside spaces welcoming to nature.

We are continuing to work on pencil grip and the movements needed to write all letters.

### Maths

This week in Maths we will be focusing on the concepts of "more than" and "fewer than" and comparing quantities. Try to use the language of more and fewer when talking to your children. "Who has more pasta, child or Mummy?" Who has



more/fewer teddies on their bed, child or sibling?"

### The wider curriculum

As part of our PSED (Personal, Social and Emotional Development) learning about ourselves we have been thinking about what makes us special and unique. On Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> October please can each child bring in one special item that they would be willing to share with the class. It can be a toy, photo, book or object and we would ask it to be sent in in a named bag. We will do our best to look after these items, but please don't send in anything that is highly precious, breakable or expensive.

### Regular Reminders

- ⇒ Please bring back your child's reading folder each Friday so that it can be checked and books changed.
- ⇒ Please remember book bags every day.
- ⇒ Every time you wash jumpers and cardigans check their names are still visible on the labels.

### Dates for your diary

Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> and Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> October Parents Evening your coloured slip with your allotted time should have come home on Friday. Teachers will also display their timetables on their classroom doors if you lose this. We look forward to talking to you then.

Friday 20<sup>th</sup> October: Individual photos. Make sure you hold back a clean jumper for Friday so your child looks as gorgeous and angelic as possible!

Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> November Workshop and Stay and Play sorry for the confusion last week and well done to those canny people who spotted that the 15<sup>th</sup> November is a Wednesday, not a Tuesday!