# **Venus Home Learning Grid w/b 11th May**

# What can we do to help the environment?

#### Reading

Another reading task for you to do with your current 'reading book', which should be familiar from doing in your reading work in school.

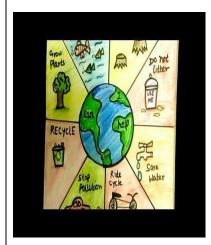
This week have a think about any themes which you think are developing as you go through your book. Remember a theme is like a main idea that flows through the book, recurring in the actions, thoughts or behaviour of the characters. Some common themes we have looked at before include: Friendship, Courage, Sadness/Loss, Loyalty,

After you have selected a suitable theme, hunt for some strong evidence through your book to demonstrate the theme. You could find good quotes or summarise a selected part in your own words. Remember to ask yourself "does my evidence really demonstrate/prove my chosen theme?"

Jealousy, Determination.

#### What Can We Do?

What can we do to help our environment? Lead a family discussion about how we can protect our planet. What do you and your family already do? What positive changes do you think you could make? Make a list of all your suggestions. Then come together and agree on your top ten ideas. Once you have done this, design a poster to display in your home and use this to remind you of all the wonderful things you could do!



#### **Phoneme Stories**

Phoneme: s ss c se ce Some of you perhaps did the 's' phoneme chart a couple of

phoneme chart a couple of weeks ago, normally in class we would be doing a phoneme story and partner dictation to help us assess how we got on with this phoneme.

Your challenge this week is to come up with your own phoneme story using the 's' phoneme. Go back to your chart and choose a wide selection of words and then write 2 or 3 paragraphs which include as many of the different 's' words as possible.

Don't worry if you didn't do a chart from a few weeks ago, you could still try doing a phoneme story with a different phoneme that you are familiar with e.g.

The 'k' phoneme: c k ck ch The 'j' phoneme: J g dge

### **How to Save Our Planet**

Watch this video (link below) and take notes as you watch it.

What are the 4 key things that David Attenborough recommends we do to have a positive impact on our environment?

Summarise these four key messages in your own words. You might want to add in your own ideas (or ideas from your family), about how to save our planet. Or perhaps when you are finished, you could think about any changes that you or your family could make that might help to restore the health of our planet.

https://www.youtube.com/wat ch?v=0Puv0Pss33M -

# You Can Make a Difference!

Watch the YouTube video from Prevented Ocean Plastic (link below).

Write an email or letter to the customer services department of your favourite food or drink brand. Ask them how they are making sure that their plastic production is safe and environmentally friendly.

Do they support any countries by employing people to sort the plastic into recyclable waste? How are they making sure that they are making a positive impact on the environment?

Did you know that sports brand Adidas have made a football field from 1.8 million recycled plastic bottles?!

https://www.youtube.com/wat ch?time\_continue=147&v=dAwr TIEhV-0&feature=emb\_logo

### **Plastics Diary**

Over the next week, keep a 'plastic diary', recording how much single-use plastic you or your family use. (An example table is included on the final page of this document)

At the end of the week, add up your totals and then consider any ways to bring down your total plastic use.

What can be done?
As well as thinking about how you can use less plastic, consider how everyone can use less and help keep our oceans free from plastic pollution:



## Go Fish!

Over the last few weeks, we have been asking you to practice your times tables. We all know that multiplication and division are linked, so this week we would like you to try recalling some division facts. Why not try a game of "Go Fish?" Split a deck of cards between you and a partner. You may have played this before, but instead of looking for matching pairs, you are competing to find pairs of cards that divide evenly into each other. For example, in the hand shown, the player could lay down the 8 and the 2 because they divide to make 4. Take it in turns to find as many division facts as you can. The person left with the least amount of cards wins! Why not play it a few times and with different members of your family?



#### **Keep Count**

Count how many steps you take during a certain time in one day e.g. 1:00-2:00. Record this number each day. Use your totals to find out if you did more or less than the day before by subtracting them. At the end of the week, add them all together to find vour total number of steps

### **Symmetry in Nature**

Last week you may have done the symmetry hunt around your house, this week you are going to hunt for examples of symmetry in nature.

Have a look for natural items in your garden, outside your door, or if you are out for a walk. For example, leaves or feathers are great for this activity, or you could look for a cone, a dandelion or some other kind of flower/plant.

Back at home, if possible, cut your item in half and stick it down onto paper and now you are going to draw the other half as precisely as possible. When finished, you could then identify how many lines of symmetry it has.



#### Remember:

Something is symmetrical when it is the same on both sides. A shape has symmetry if a central dividing line can be drawn on it to show that both sides of the shape are exactly the same.

#### **Nature Survey**

We're all staying safe at home. Because there are fewer cars on the roads, nature is starting to creep into places we wouldn't usually see it. Have a look around as you go on your walk or out of your window and make a list of any birds and animals that you see.

Create a tally chart and try to keep a record over the course of a week or even over several weeks.

You could then think of a creative way to display your results (you may have done a similar activity a few weeks ago from your learning grid) e.g. bar graph, poster, pictogram.

The following link could provide a useful bird identification/tally chart:

https://www.rspb.org.uk/globalassets/downloads/kids--schools/big-schools-birdwatch-downloads/ages-11-14--counting-chart.pdf



#### **Grow your Own**

Growing your own vegetables is really rewarding – not to mention, tasty! Plus, it's a great way to see nature in action. What's better, lots of the foods we eat in the UK can be easily re-grown from food scraps, so you'll be cutting down on food waste, too!

Two of the easiest things to grow from offcuts are lettuce and celery. Next time you're using these veggies at home ask a parent or guardian to keep the ends. Pop the root ends in a glass or small dish filled with a little water and leave in a sunny spot. You'll soon notice roots beginning to sprout and new leaves growing. If you're able to, plant them in soil and watch them continue to grow! Don't worry if you don't have any soil, they will also continue to grow in water.

(See National Geographic link below for a handy list of other vegetables that you can easily grow from scraps.)

#### **Food Journeys**

We all have foods we enjoy eating, healthy or otherwise. Many of the goods we have are grown here in the UK. However, there are a lot of things that come from other countries. Have you ever stopped to think about how a certain food got to you? Do you know the journey it had to make? If something must be brought to our country, it is done so by using 'food miles.' Food miles is a term used to describe the distance food travels from the beginning of its journey (where it is produced) to the end of its journey (our shops). Think about an item of food that might come from another country. This could be a banana, coffee or even chocolate! Use the internet to research that item of food. What can you find out? Where does it come from? How is it grown or produced? What does the producer have to do to get it to us? How far does it have to travel? Now think about the impact all that travelling has on our environment. Producers rely on us to buy their food, but what do you think we could do to help protect our planet?

#### Joe Wicks: 5 Minute Move

Many of you have been enjoying P.E. with Joe Wicks at home. This week try to keep fit by using one of his '5 Minute Move' workouts. If possible, you will need a timer to count down five minutes. Practice it every day and try to get your family members to join in with you! Here is what you need to know to complete the 'Low Sprint Shuffle.'

plenty of room
Crouch down, bending your
knees
Run quickly on the spot
Pump your arms as you run
Turn to the middle and to the
side
Make sure your feet are moving
quickly

Keep this going for five minutes

Find a spot where you will have

#### **Outdoors Twister**

'Twister' is a fun game which encourages flexibility and balance. It is the perfect way to spend time with your family. If you don't have it at home, create your own! What can you find to make your coloured dots? You will need:

- 6 red dots
- 6 yellow dots
- 6 green dots
- 6 blue dots

You will also need to make instructions. Use small pieces of paper to write each colour, left hand, right hand, left foot and right foot four times. Fold these up and put them into a bag. Find an open space, lay your dots out and let the fun begin! Pick a colour and a body part from the bag to give your instructions and watch as your family 'twist' to make it work! Let everyone be 'referee' at least once!

### Go For a 'Green Walk'

It's great to head outside and get a little fresh air! We know that many of you have been using this opportunity to go for walks with your family. Why not take the chance to help our environment on your next outing? If you are heading for a walk with an adult, take along some gloves and a bag and do a little litter pick on your way. Remember not to touch anything that might be sharp and give your hands a good wash after!

## Renewable energy

Wind Power Challenge – Using some items from around the home, can you design a simple wind turbine capable of lifting a cup off the floor to bench height? See below link for experiment instructions. If you don't have some of the materials, how could you adapt it?

https://www.teachingideas.co.uk/sites/default/files/windpowerchallengeteachersinstructions.pdf



# Whole School challenge

**Upcycle challenge** – can you create a piece of art or a practical object that was once something else?

You could make jewellery, a musical instrument, gardening tools, Rubbish Creatures, a desk tidy...let your imagination and creativity run wild! Use milk jugs, cardboard boxes, old clothes, egg cartons, carrier bags or anything else you know is no longer needed.

Please post us a before and after picture on our Facebook page so we can see your wonderful recycled creations.

# Our Future Planet

Consider some of the big issues facing our planet at the moment (e.g. climate change, plastic pollution, energy consumption, endangered animals etc). Come up with some ideas about how to solve some of these problems (or you might just want to focus on one issue).

Now imagine you have travelled through time to the year 2050. Describe how different the environment may look then. Keep in mind the solutions you have come up with.

You could either write a description, create a picture/ poster or prepare a speech to share with your family; be creative and have fun.

Hopefully with your great ideas and if we can all help to make a difference, you can prove that the future looks bright for our planet!

## **Animal Art**

We all love animals and most of us enjoy getting the chance to create our own art projects, too! Combine both by reusing natural materials provided by our planet. Go on a resources hunt! Find leaves of different shapes and sizes from an outdoor space. Then use these to create your favourite animals. How many can you make?





#### Music Maestro

Now it's your turn to be creative! Music is a great way to express how you are feeling or to send an important message. Recycling helps us to protect our environment. Write some lyrics about the benefits of reusing our materials at home or school. Then add some music! Use a song you like or create your own! Why not share your ideas with us on our class Facebook page?

# **Useful Websites**

NUMERACY AND MATHS:	LITERACY:
https://www.topmarks.co.uk/	https://www.literacyshed.com/home.html
https://pages.sumdog.com/	https://www.topmarks.co.uk/english-games/7-11-years/spelling-and-grammar
https://mathsframe.co.uk/en/resources/category/22/most-popular	https://www.doorwayonline.org.uk/literacy/
http://www.maths-games.org/	
https://login.mathletics.com/	
HEALTH & WELLBEING/P.E:	SOCIAL STUDIES:
(Joe Wicks PE) -	https://www.natgeokids.com/uk/
https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCAxW1XT0iEJo0TYIRfn6rYQ	
(Just Dance for kids) -	EXPRESSIVE ARTS:
https://www.youtube.com/resultssearch_query=just+dance+kids	https://artprojectsforkids.org/
www.gonoodle.com	
https://www.youtube.com/results?search_query=cosmic+kids+yoga	
https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/supermovers	
https://www.nhs.uk/change4life/activities	
SCIENCE:	Ideas to help you tackle the BIG Question
https://www.britishscienceweek.org/plan-your-activities/activity-	https://www.natgeokids.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/Veggies-to-grow-
packs/?gclid=CjwKCAjwsMzzBRACEiwAx4lLG8_zT4qImYI4UJfsRSgopbmELVOgfmo-	<u>from-scraps-Persil-x-Nat-Geo-Kids-download-min.pdf</u> ('Grow Your Own' activity)
9fYZ88SJEJ3QeEMP67LSDxoCzIsQAvD_BwE	https://www.natgeokids.com/uk/
	https://climatekids.nasa.gov/
	https://www.wwf.org.uk/learn/love-nature
	https://www.wildlifewatch.org.uk/spotting-sheets (Helpful bird/animal/tree
	identification sheets for nature spotting)

# My Plastic Diary

# Record how much single use plastic you/your family use

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Add up your totals here
Plastic bottles								
Plastic drinking straws								
Plastic food wrappers and packets								
Yoghurt pots and other food containers								
Plastic bags								
Any other plastic items								