



We conducted an experiment linked to our book 'We're Going on a Bear Hunt'. We had two hot water bottles (our bears!), one ate lots and got fat and one didn't. The one that ate lots and got fat also made himself a warm bed in leaves and foliage. We talked about how the fat and the leaves helped keep the bear warm. The children all said that they have blankets and duvets at home and that they wouldn't sleep well if they were cold. We discussed how the bears have a big sleep called 'hibernation' and that they also like to be warm and toasty when they go to sleep. The children then predicted which bear would be happier, the one that was full of food, fat and warm or the one that had no fat and no leaves to keep him warm. We checked the hot water bottles at the end of the day and we were right, the fat bear that was all snuggly under the leaves was still very warm, the other one had gone cold!

STEM Week in Blackbird

This week we have done lots of science experiments. We have explored floating and sinking in our water play, we have looked at melting ice, the properties of different materials and hibernating bears!

We had some pictures of food for our teddy bear picnic and we had to find them with our bears in a 'food hunt'. We needed to stick the pictures of the food in different places outside so we looked at what objects would be good to stick into the ground, like posts. The children said that spaghetti was too soft, the twigs were snapping and the straws were bendy. The children decided the lolly sticks were the strongest to stick into the ground. We stuck our food pictures to the sticks a Mrs Arcos hid them outside. The children enjoyed their 'food hunt', we then went and had the teddy bear picnic and talked about which foods were healthy.

We also followed the children's lead and did some science using the water tray. They explored which objects would float and which would sink. 'This one sink (sank) to the bottom teacher'. Said Toby. 'Do you know why it sank to the bottom?' 'Cause (because) it got holes in'. 'Yes Toby, it sank because it has got holes and they let the water in!'. The children were predicting which objects would float and which ones would sink.

We also did an experiment into ice and how it melts when it gets hot. 'It is now water', lots of the children said. We looked at the properties and features of different materials like corn flour and spaghetti. We made the corn flour brown like the mud in our 'Bear Hunt' story. We mixed it with the spaghetti and made gloopy mud. The children described it using words such as: soft, runny, messy, hard and yucky. They found it very strange that one minute the mud was hard and the next minute it was a liquid like water.