

## Reception and Nursery Visit to Sculthorpe Moor Nature Reserve

On a beautifully sunny day, our Reception and Nursery classes enjoyed a wonderful visit to **Sculthorpe Moor Nature Reserve**. The children were full of excitement as we set off by coach for a day of outdoor exploration and learning. The trip was planned to extend our learning of our topic this half-term, which has focussed on Nature, and to feed into the first half of next half-term which is looking at Seasons. This has been inspired by the Understanding the World area of learning.

Upon arrival, we divided into three groups and took it in turns to participate in a rotation of engaging activities led by staff and volunteers.

- **Pond Dipping:**

The children had the opportunity to explore the pond with the help of the two lovely volunteer guides, **Jean and Jean**. Using nets and trays, they discovered a fascinating variety of pond life and learned about the different creatures that make their homes in freshwater habitats.

- **Nature Scavenger Walk:**

During the woodland and meadow walk, the children became enthusiastic nature detectives, searching for signs of wildlife and seasonal changes. They found **hazelnuts, the bright red berries of the Guelder Rose**, and other natural treasures, developing their observation skills and curiosity about the natural world.

- **Bird Watching and Bird Feeder Making:**

In the bird hide, the children enjoyed spotting and identifying a variety of birds. They also made their own **large pine cone bird feeders** to take home, ensuring the birds in their gardens would benefit from their creativity and care.

The weather could not have been better—**warm sunshine and clear skies** made the day even more enjoyable. Before leaving, we all gathered in the open space to play some lively outdoor games, including **Bear's Breakfast** and **Squirrel Tails**, which provided a perfect ending to a fun-filled day.

The children returned to school tired but happy, full of stories about what they had seen and learned. The trip to Sculthorpe Moor was a wonderful opportunity to connect classroom learning with hands-on experience in nature, and we are very grateful to the reserve staff and volunteers for making it such a memorable day.