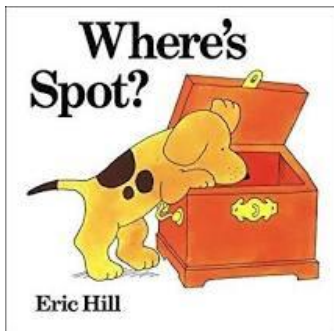


# Core books and rhymes

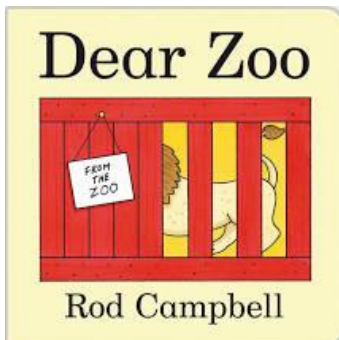
At Horsted Keynes preschool we have chosen twelve 'core books' which we want our children to know well by the time they leave preschool. These books are the type of books that can be re-visited again and again on different levels to support language development. The idea is that children will develop language and increase vocabulary in addition to gaining a love of books and will become very familiar with these known texts so that they can remember and re-tell them. We have chosen fun, repetitive books, which are easy for the children to join in with, so that the experience of reading becomes interactive, and the children begin to learn the story as they are read to. In each book there is lots to discuss so that the children understand the vocabulary as well as what is happening.

All our core books have pictures, which support the text but also compliment and add to it. We discuss the pictures and what is happening in them as much as the text. We find our children learn the books word for word after a while, which can give them great confidence as early readers in terms of fluency when reading.

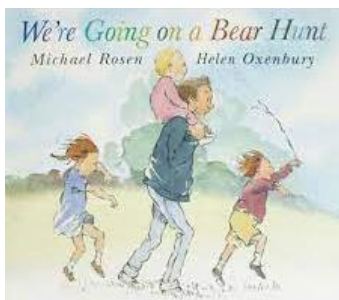
**Our core books are:**



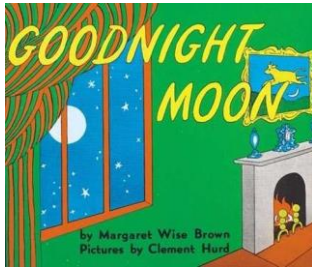
Where's Spot - Eric Hill



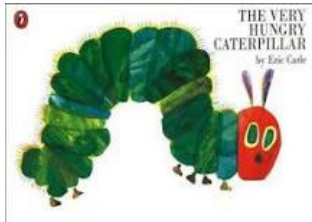
Dear Zoo - Rod Campbell



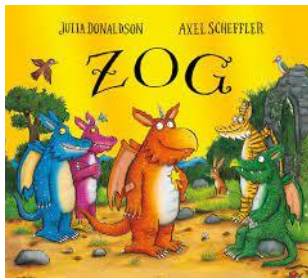
We're Going on a Bear Hunt - Michael Rosen



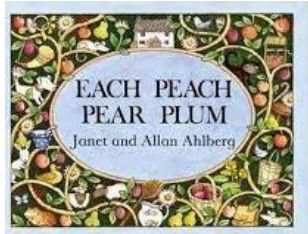
Goodnight moon – Margaret Wise Brown



The Very Hungry Caterpillar - Eric Carle



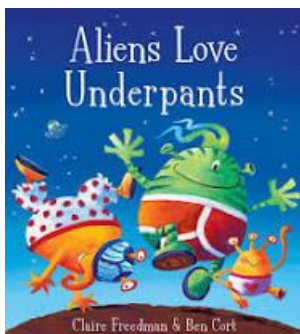
Zog - Julia Donaldson



Each Peach Pear Plum - Allan and Janet Ahlberg



Prince & Knight - Daniel Haack



Aliens love underpants – Claire Freedman



The Gruffalo – Julia Donaldson

On Thursdays we hold 'open story times' where our core books are read (mornings –11:45 am). This is a chance for parents to spend time with their child and enjoy sharing favourite stories within preschool. (This is currently postponed due to COVID-19 restrictions).

We also have 'core rhymes' which support language development. Each week, the children chant or sing the rhyme during group times. By the time the children leave preschool they are familiar with each core rhyme.

**Our core rhymes are:**

- Twinkle, twinkle little star
- Row, Row, Row your boat
- Hickory dickory dock
- Jack and Jill
- Hey diddle diddle
- Humpty dumpty
- Incy wincy spider
- Baa, Baa black sheep
- 5 Little Ducks Went Swimming One Day
- Mary, Mary quite contrary
- I'm a little tea pot
- Tommy thumb
- 12345 once I caught a fish alive