

We used the Bee-Bot with a small to medium size group in a Reception class. The work was linked to text, 'Jack and the Beanstalk' and we used the Jack and the Beanstalk Mat (Compatible with Bee-Bot).

We've focused on teaching the children about directions as well as how to programme the Bee-Bot.

Key questions asked during the activity:

- How do we make the Bee-Bot move?
- How can we change the direction the Bee-Bot moves in?
 - How do we tell the Bee-bot how far to travel?
 - Do you think will be far enough?
 - Did the Bee-Bot reach its destination?
 - What do we need to do differently next time?

Areas of learning

PSED:

- cooperating/working together
- turn taking and accepting the needs of others
- needs of others

Maths:

- use positional language

Communication & Language:

- listening to others
- focusing attention
- able to follow directions
- listen and do for short span
- respond to simple instruction
- use talk to organise and express ideas

Understanding of the World:

knows how to operate simple equipment



TESTIMONIALS



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The children explored the Bee-Bots for over two weeks. They've shown progress in being able to work together as a team, take turns, and listen to and follow instructions.

Towards the end they had a better understanding of the positional language and were using it independently. One child said, "do backwards and do forwards", another said, "I'm going left or right or down or right. I want him to move forwards and backwards and left and right".

Most of the children became confident in programming the Bee-Bot so that it could reach its destination and understood how to use the buttons – for example, the X button to clear instructions meant "forget what I said" or "forget what I said, young man!"

They also used counting skills for counting button presses and working memory to plan and input their commands. They gave instructions such as "press this two times" and said, "I remember I pressed this one four times: left, left, left, left."



Thank you to Windale Primary for writing this review.

