

**Happy New Year and welcome to the Animal Nursery. The animals are great friends and have lots of fun while they are learning.
Hope you enjoy this tale.**



Ruaridh



Gwen



Daisy



Scott



Rebecca



Mabel



Bertie



Simon



Tomasz



Felicity



Martin



Dana



Henry



Sofija

The Tale of the Frosty Day

Mrs Bear and Mrs Hippo were delighted to see all the animals back at nursery. "Welcome back and Happy New Year!" they both said. The animals were very keen to tell the ladies their news and all started to speak at once. Mrs Hippo laughed and said that she would need fourteen pairs of ears to be able to listen to what everyone was saying! The animals all giggled too, imagining Mrs Hippo with so many ears! "You would look like a super cool alien", said Tomasz who liked to draw aliens and robots. Mrs Bear suggested that they have a together time so everyone could hear each other's news Daisy barked happily as she had some very important news to tell everyone.

Mrs Bear rang the small golden bell that indicated that everyone needed to come together. Then everyone sang the "Let's all get together song" and went to sit in the story area. Mrs Bear and Mrs Hippo were very impressed at how well the children sat, and how ready they were to listen. Mrs Bear looked around and noticed that Daisy was sitting quietly and straining to sit up really well and asked her what she would like to tell everyone.

"I'm a big cousin!" said Daisy excitedly. "My auntie Susan has had a puppy. Her name is Skye. She is so cute and fluffy. Auntie Susan says she is a rascal as you know what she did, she went under the garden shed and got all covered in mud!! Auntie Susan had to put her in the bath and when she was in the bath she wriggled so much that Auntie Susan got all wet too!". Everyone laughed. "What wonderful news to start off the New Year" said Mrs Bear.

Bertie was chosen next as he was sitting very quietly "I got bin-oc-ul-ars from Santa" said Bertie. "They are amazing. I can see things that are so far away and they look a lot closer". "I got a new hoopla hoop, it's purple and all sparkly," said Rebecca. "I got a magic set," said Henry. "I can make things disappear". "Can you make all the food in the world except bananas disappear?", asked Martin, hopefully. Everyone laughed as they knew how much Martin loved bananas. Mabel told everyone the uncle who is a cheese monger send her a wonderful cheesy hamper filled with Scottish cheddar, Swiss cheese, ricotta and her favourite cheese in the world ever, mozzarella.

Sofija said that she got a "Frozen" snow suit from her granny. She said she wore it on Christmas Day when she had a zoom call with her grandparents. "I got a new cosy hat and mittens" said Gwen. "They are all different colours just like a rainbow. I love rainbows." "I got a new hat, it's a camouflage one so

no-one will find me when we play hide n seek!", laughed Scott. "I got snow boots, they are all silver and shine in the sun", said Dana happily. "I pretend I am an ice dancer, twirling and twirling and twirling around".

After everyone had been given the chance to share their news and Mrs Bear had thanked everyone for listening to each other so well, Mrs Hippo asked if anyone would like to go outside. There was a big cheer as exploring in the garden was always very popular. Mrs Bear reminded everyone to put something warm on before going out. As they lined up at the door Felicity was first in the line and said "it's just like glitter" as she looked outside. "That's a great description of the frost, Felicity!" said Mrs Hippo as it was indeed sparkling in the sunlight.

"Jack Frost has been so busy last night !" said Ruaridh as he hopped around the garden. He liked wiping the frost from the chalk board and making pictures of the Octonauts, which was his favourite television programme. "They are all frozen" said Gwen who was looking at the mint plants. " Listen to this" said Martin as he walked on the grass which made crunching sounds when he stepped on it. Tomasz decided to go on an ice hunt and using the wheelbarrow collected all pieces of ice he could find. Dana found a piece of the ground that was very icy and pretended that it was an ice skating rink.

Felicity liked smashing the ice onto the ground so that it broke into so many pieces. Henry liked making pictures with the icy bits that had smashed. Together Henry and Tomasz made an ice alien and its spaceship. Daisy used a stick to try and make a hole in a thicker piece of ice she had found and asked Mrs Hippo if she could bring the toy penguins outside as they would love the ice and cold weather. Mrs Hippo thought this was a great idea and soon Daisy, Felicity and Gwen were all making a "ice world " for the penguins.

Bertie told Mrs Hippo that because the sun had started to shine brighter it was getting in his eyes. Mrs Hippo said "I wonder what happens to ice when the sun shines?" "I know!", said Rebecca excitedly "it will turn back into water". "Well done Rebecca!" said Mrs Hippo. "When ice melts it turns back into water." Mrs Hippo liked asking the children thinking questions to extend their learning so she said "I wonder how long that it will take for this piece of ice to melt?" as she showed the animals a big piece of ice that she had put on a blue tray. Mrs Hippo also had a clip board, paper and a pen to write with.

Mrs Hippo said they were going to be like scientists and make predictions as to how long the ice will take to melt. Martin wanted to go first and said it would take one hundred thousand and two days. Mrs Hippo asked Martin to write his guess. Martin liked writing zero's so he wrote lots beside his name. Martin had been practising writing the letter M. "I think it will take 5 minutes", said Henry. Gwen said "I think it will be 20. I can count to 20 now! I was

practising in the holidays.” Mrs Hippo got the sand timers and the clock out so the animals could check their predictions and watch the time passing and see if there was any difference in the ice.

Soon it was time for everyone to go back inside. The ice wasn't completely melted when they left it, but the piece was much smaller. Mrs Bear had found a programme all about penguins and was going to put it on the white board. When they went inside everyone could hear gentle snoring, and spotted Simon curled up in a blanket.

When the children saw the programme on the board, they cheered, excited to learn more about one of their favourite animals. Simon was woken up by all of the noise, and wandered over to see what was happening on the board. Before long, they were all settled, watching the penguins on the screen. One of the penguins fell asleep, prompting Simon to do the same.