

Class: Beech
Term: 1

Literacy

Key Text: The Snow Leopard by Jackie Morris

Purpose for writing: Descriptive writing

Writing: Using The Snow Leopard a starting point, the children will be exploring a range of different adventure stories, including our Talk for Writing model text, Kidnapped. Children will learn about the structure and writing strategies used in adventure stories and then use this to write their own version. Later in the term we will be using the text, Life Sized Animal Tracks by John Townsend to create our own information texts and finally we will analyzing The Listeners by Walter de la Mare for our performance poetry. These will all link well to our farming quest, allowing children to explore nature in writing.

Grammar: One of our focuses this term will be about writing cohesive paragraphs to improve the structure of our writing. When examining punctuation, we will be working on using commas for meaning.

Word Reading / Comprehension: As part of our reading this term, we will be looking at retrieval, retrieving and record key information/ and key details from both fiction and non-fiction texts.

Computing

Focus: On-line safety In this unit, children will learn about email safety. They will consider the importance of strong passwords and learn how to create them. They will scrutinise photographs that they see online and learn how easy it is to manipulate pictures.

Maths

Place Value: In this unit, children will be examining the place value and ordering of numbers, up to 10,000 for year 4 and 1,000,000 for year 5. They will look at counting, representing, ordering and comparing these numbers. They will also spend time looking at Roman numerals. They will then focus on rounding numbers, with year 4 rounding to 10, 100 and 1000 and year 5 looking at numbers to 1,000,000. They will then look at negative numbers.

Addition and Subtraction: In this block, both year 4 and 5 will begin by looking at addition calculations. Year 4 start with 4 digit numbers, beginning with no exchanging, then with one exchange and finally a number of exchanges. They will also add 10s, 100s and 1000s and make links to adding 1s. Year 5 will concentrate on adding whole numbers with more than 4 digits. The same set of steps and expectations are then expected when both year groups are working on subtraction. Finally children will be working on estimating to check answers and using inverse operations.

Quest: What is the perfect farm for our local area?

In this quest, children will first of all be visited by a local farmer who will set them the challenge of designing their own farm. They will find out all about farming through the curriculum and their own research and then be asked to complete a design, in whichever way they chose, to show what an ideal local farm might look like.

Science

Biology: Living Things and Their Habitats

Building on the work that the children completed last year in Biology, in which they classified different types of animals, in this unit children will be looking at reproduction in both plants and animals and how different parts of a plant support this. They will examine the requirements that a plant has for life and also the way that water is transported within plants. They will then examine the differences in the life cycles of a mammal, an amphibian, an insect and a bird. Children will then use this, along with their knowledge on habitats, to help them to develop their ideas for the farm which will be developed further in their geography work next half-term in which they will discover why different types of farming happens in different places across the UK.

Working Scientifically: Children will learn to identify differences, similarities or changes between scientific ideas and processes.

History

Focus: British History, the Stone Age to the Iron Age.

This 'Stone Age to Bronze Age' unit will teach the children about how the Stone Age to Bronze Age period impacted on life in Britain. They will learn about how early man survived in a harsh environment, why Skara Brae was important for understanding life in the Stone Age, how copper mining was crucial to the Bronze Age and why Stonehenge was built. Children will also learn about why Iron Age people developed hillforts- Much of the focus will be upon how farming was developed through these historical periods and changed, with children understanding the enormous impact that this had upon our way of life. This will be linked to their previous learning about Romans and how their invasion ended the Iron Age.

Music

Focus: Mama Mia! All the learning in this unit is focused around one song: Mama Mia by Abba. Children will have the chance to Listen and Appraise the song and other songs that Abba have composed. They will then do a variety of musical activities and learn to sing the song and finally play the song on a variety of instruments.

RE

Focus: What is it like to follow God? In this unit, children will be looking at following god in a number of different religions. During this they will look at different religious beliefs and stories and how these structure the practices and ways of worship of different people.

Art

Focus: Plants and Flowers Study

This unit will teach children about how to use pencil, colour, hapa some printing, sculpture and paper modelling to create quality art work that is based around the theme of plants and flowers, using local resources gathered in their quest work.

Artist Study: The children will also have the opportunity to explore the work of Flint, Alexander Calder, David Oliveira and Henri Rousseau.

PE

Focus: Personal Skills In this unit, children will have the opportunity to, through a range of activities and sports, develop their personal skills in PE. Over the unit, they will be focusing upon: perseverance, personal challenge, using self-assessment, coping well when things become challenging and improving performance.

French

Focus: All Around Town.

In this unit, the class will learn to develop their intercultural understanding by being introduced to the sights of some typical French cities. They will also learn to describe places in a town, count to 100 and give their address in French.

PHSE

Focus: Safety First In this unit of work, children will consider a range of ways of keeping themselves safe. These will include: online safety, road safety, dares, assessing dangers and when to seek help.