

English:

This half term we will be reading a range of biographies discussing the style and features of this text type. We will also explore other significant individuals from history and their impact on us today. Children will research Antarctica based on the starting point of Ernest Shackleton. Using this knowledge, children will write reports based on Antarctica to inform their readers about this part of the world. They will then write their own biographies comparing two explorers.

Questions:

What are the features of a biography? How do we compare two texts? What are the features of a report? What is a suffix? What tense does my writing need to be in?

Reading

Children will be reading a range of texts, fiction, non-fiction and poetry. We will discuss the features of each genre of books as well as developing inference skills. We will focus on non-fiction books primarily, discussing the features of a non-fiction text (contents, index, glossary, photographs, questions, sub headings)

Questions:

What words tell us that Mae Jemison was excited to be in space? What features tell us this book is a biography? How many facts can you find about space?

Year 2 Curriculum Newsletter Term 4



This half term our topic will be based on *Intrepid Explorers* and much of our work will be cross-curricular, linking subjects wherever possible.

Maths:

We will be continuing to read and write, as words, numbers to 100 and learning about place value and partitioning numbers. We will be exploring fractions and solving problems with them. The children will then look at measures including length, weight and temperature before recognising properties of 2D and 3D shapes.

Questions:

How many ways can you partition 45? How many tens and how many ones are in 56? How else could you partition 56? How many cm are there in a m? How many quarters make a whole? How would you find $\frac{1}{2}$ of 40? What properties of a cylinder can you recall?

Science:

This half term's focus is on plants. We will be learning that plants start from seeds and bulbs and grow into plants. We will experiment with growing plants in different places to embed our knowledge of what plants need to grow including their life cycles and will explore how plants survive in different habitats.

Questions:

What parts of a plant life cycle can you name? What is a seed? What is a bulb? What conditions does a plant need to thrive?

Year 2 Term 4

DT:

In DT the children will be given a challenge to see if they can design something to keep an egg safe when dropped from a height. They will design an idea, test it then modify it to make it better and retest before writing a final evaluation. Will they manage to keep it safe?

History:

In history we will be researching and comparing a range of explorers including Mae Jemison, Neil Armstrong, Christopher Columbus and Ernest Shackleton.

Computing:

This half term we will be looking at data collection making links to our learning in maths last half term. Children will be looking at different ways of presenting this data; block diagrams, pictograms and graphs. Children will then use that information to answer questions.

PSHE:

This half term our theme is 'Healthy Me'. Over the half term we will learn about how to keep our bodies healthy, how to relax when feeling stressed, how medicines work in our bodies and how to safely use them, which food groups foods belong to and which food groups our bodies need every day and understand which food groups give my body energy.

PE:

This half term we will be doing dance and football fundamentals. In dance we will be creating an Explorer inspired dance. Football fundamentals will teach us gross motor skills and the strategies needed for team sports.

Music:

This terms music is an exploration of beat and rhythm using crotchets and quavers. It begins with on-the-spot actions, followed by stepping the durations, stick notation will be introduced and children will go on to create their own 4-beat patterns.

Children's PE lessons this half term will be on a Tuesday and Wednesday. If your child has their ears pierced please ensure they are taken out in advance or they are able to remove them themselves. PE will be outside as much as the weather permits— please make sure your child has suitable clothing. Children can continue to come to school in PE clothes on a Tuesday and Wednesday.

Adventurous Adjectives

People	Objects	Helpful Feelings	Challenging Feelings	Size	Time
adorable adventurous aggressive annoying beautiful caring charming clumsy confident considerate excitable glamorous grumpy handsome happy helpful important intimidating obnoxious odd talented thoughtless timid	bright clear distinct drab elegant filthy gleaming grotesque long magnificent precious sparkling spotless strange unsightly unusual valuable	brave calm cheerful comfortable courageous determined eager elated encouraged energetic excited exuberant fantastic fine healthy joyful pleasant relieved	angry annoyed anxious ashamed awful bewildered bored confused defeated defiant depressed disgusted disturbed dizzy embarrassed envious frightened hungry lonely scared terrified worried	big colossal enormous gigantic great huge immense large little long mammoth massive meagre mighty miniature minuscule petite puny short tall teeny tiny	ancient brief early fast late modern old quick rapid short slow swift young



What Is an Explorer?

An explorer is a person who explores new or unfamiliar places.

By the 19th and 20th centuries, countries were eager to explore different places; they would race to places to be the first to place their flag there! An example of this is the Space Race between the Soviet Union and United States of America.



Christopher Columbus
Central America, South America and the Caribbean



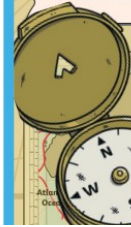
Gertrude Bell
Turkey and Iraq



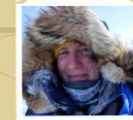
Ernest Shackleton
The South Pole



Matthew Henson
The Arctic



Ibn Battuta
Mecca and China



Felicity Aston
The Antarctic



Leif Erikson



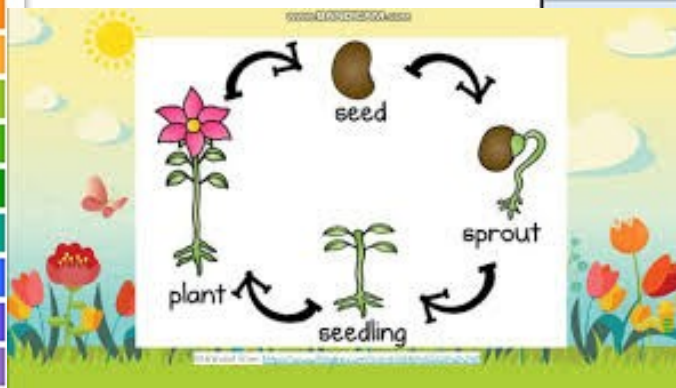
Neil Armstrong
The Moon

Suffix Word Mat

-ment	-ness	-ful	-less	-ly
amazement	carelessness	beautiful	careless	amazingly
amusement	coldness	careful	colourless	badly
argument	darkness	cheerful	harmless	extremely
astonishment	goodness	colourful	helpless	friendly
assortment	happiness	delightful	hopeless	happily
disappointment	illness	fearful	endless	immediately
embarrassment	kindness	forgetful	painless	kindly
encouragement	loneliness	grateful	speechless	lazily
enjoyment	sadness	helpful	spotless	luckily
equipment	tenderness	hopeful	thoughtfulness	nervously
excitement	unfairness	peaceful	useless	slowly
movement	unhappiness	powerful		unlikely
punishment	weakness	spiteful		quickly
	wickedness	successful		
		thankful		
		spoonful		
		thoughtful		
		wonderful		

Vocabulary

1									
1/2					1/2				
1/3			1/3				1/3		
1/4		1/4			1/4			1/4	
1/5		1/5		1/5		1/5		1/5	
1/6		1/6		1/6		1/6		1/6	
1/7		1/7		1/7		1/7		1/7	
1/8		1/8		1/8		1/8		1/8	
1/9		1/9		1/9		1/9		1/9	
1/10		1/10		1/10		1/10		1/10	
1/11		1/11		1/11		1/11		1/11	
1/12		1/12		1/12		1/12		1/12	



Home Learning

Please ensure you read with your child each night and record the title of their book in their reading record.

Below are some suggestions of projects your children might like to work on this half term.

Make a life cycle of a plant of your choice.

Make a painting/model of your favourite Explorer.

Space fact file.

Create your own Explorer.

Write a biography of a famous explorer.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zhpchbk>

<https://kids.britannica.com/kids/article/explorers-at-a-glance/608506>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zpxnyrd>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/z8mxrwx>

<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/Search.aspx?Subject=16>

<https://www.natgeokids.com/uk/>

<https://ictgames.com/>

Websites