

Foxes and Otters Learning Adventure

Terms 1 and 2

Our Guiding Stars (Learning skills)



There's Only One Me

Where will our adventure take us?

Our Writing Adventure

We will kick-start the term by writing all about ourselves! This will lead us into writing our very own autobiographies. We will focus on different parts of our lives, considering their time sequence and writing consistently in first person. We will include information such as our family, hobbies, likes and dislikes. From here, we will move onto instructions. This will cover many of our own daily routine such as: making breakfast, brushing teeth, washing hands and getting dressed. For this text type, we will use lots of imperative verbs (put, pull, brush etc) and fronted adverbials to signal time (first, next, then etc). Moving into term two we will move onto our fictional writing. We will explore our school woods to search out clues to discover the stories we will be reading in class. The children will then write character and setting descriptions, to develop and broaden their use of adventurous adjectives before using this to write their own story. All of our units will have an underlying focus on handwriting, capital letters, full stops and finger spaces. The children will be reminded to always read work back to check that it makes sense and is well presented.

Our Reading Adventure

We will read a variety of text throughout the term, both fiction and non-fiction. As we look at each book we will discuss who is the author and illustrator, we will make predictions, answer comprehension questions and link stories to our own experiences. One particular author we will explore is Allan Ahlberg and his Funny Bones collection.

Our Adventure Starts...

Can Year 1 work together as a team to solve the puzzle to work out the theme of topic this term?

An adventure highlight...

A visit by Maidstone Museum.
We will make our own Victorian style doll.

Our Explosive Ending

An interactive museum of toys through the ages for children to explore and share.

Our Mathematical Adventure

This term we are working on number and place value to 10, and then to 20. We will be counting forwards and backwards, tracking numbers along a number line and finding missing numbers in sequence. There will be a big focus on reading and writing number in numerals and words. There are lots of practical activities for finding one more/one less, making sequences and recognising that a whole can be split into parts. Our next unit will be addition and subtraction. We will devise number stories using pictures, numbers and symbols. We will learn to add and subtract by combining objects and taking away objects, using a bead string and moving along a number line. We will focus on number bonds and fact families and word problems.

Our Scientific Adventure

Throughout the year we will be exploring our school grounds to make observational changes of the seasons. This term, we will be focusing on Autumn and the start of Winter. As we learn about ourselves, we will look closer at the human body, naming key bones and body parts. We will look at ways in which we are similar and how we are different and unique. Whilst we explore our local area we will take note of the trees and plants surrounding us. We will name plants and their parts, use identification sheets and learn the difference between evergreen and deciduous trees.

Our Computing Adventure

Our computing adventure will link closely to our topic, giving us the perfect opportunity to present our work digitally. We will do this using a range of simple tools to type, draw and paint. We will develop our mouse and keyboards skills and gain an independence in using a computer. A big emphasis will be placed on logging in and logging out, saving our work and opening up software.

Our Historical Adventure

We will explore the changes to children's pastimes in the last 70 years. Whilst looking at our own interests, we will compare these to children in the past, and how games and toys were different in the past to their own toys now. How have games, toys and places to go changed over time? We will identify different toys/technologies from different eras and see if we can sort them into now and in the past. We will cement some of these ideas during a visit from Maidstone Museum. The visitors will deliver a workshop to help us explore how children played in the past and we will make our own Victorian style doll.

Our Geographical Adventure

Whilst exploring our local area we will start in our very own classroom, move on the playground and school grounds. We will start by looking at some maps and will begin to make our own. The children will then move on to more technical drawings, using a birds eye view. After studying our school buildings we move out into the grounds. We will use our map reading skills to locate missing key features on a map and we will look closely and the geographical landmarks around our school. What can you see as we walk around?

Our Creative Adventure (Art and DT)

As we focus on ourselves in our learning, we will start by drawing self portraits. We will look closely in mirrors to check our proportions, facial shapes and features. We will also look at the work of other artists, including Pablo Picasso and our class hero, Frida Kahlo. We will use this to inspire our own work.

In term 2, we will be matching our art to our science work, looking at flowers. The unit will start with Van Gogh's sunflowers and his use of colour. We will then be learning about weaving and threading and using this to create textile sunflowers.

Our Musical Adventure

In music we will be learning one or two main songs per term. In term 1 it is 'Hey You' and in term 2 it is 'Rhythm in the Way We Walk', alongside learning songs for our Christmas performance. During our lessons, we listen and appraise pieces of music, practice our rhythm and time keeping in our warm up, learn our key songs and practice playing instruments and improvise our own tunes. At the end of the term we will then perform our song to the rest of the school.

Our Sporting Adventure

We will begin our indoor PE sessions with gymnastics in Term 1. This will involve travelling and balancing in many different ways such as: high/low, narrow/wide, under/over and using our body parts in different ways. We will start by working on the floor and moving on to apparatus. In term 2 we will move on to our dance unit. This will allow children to explore different movements to a music stimulus. Our outdoors sessions will involve a range of multi-skills (throwing/hitting/rolling/balancing/chasing/retrieving) to prepare us for the games and activities that we will carry out as the year progresses.

Our STAR Adventure

In Religious Education we will be asking 'Do we all belong to something? We will focus on how we fit in to our own communities and how people show signs of belonging in different religions. We will look at Christianity, Judaism and Islam. We will look specifically at some special symbols, stories and celebrations.

In PHSE we will be meeting Jigsaw Jack. He will be helping us to focus on 'Being Me in My World'. We will look at how we feel safe, special and calm. We will create a class charter to help promote a positive environment in our classroom.