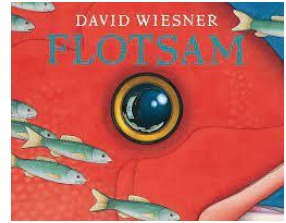


Year 2 Curriculum Update Autumn Term 2023



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At RAB we have used our extensive knowledge of what engages and interests children to create our own theme based curriculum based on children's books.

Themes

During this Autumn Term in Year 2 we will be following the themes: **5, 4, 3, 2, 1 Blast Off! (1st half term)** and **Underwater World (2nd half term)**. All of our topic work will follow these themes, enabling us to create truly cross-curricular learning. In the first half of the term we will be creating clay astronauts in Art and learning about the 1969 moon landing. After half term we will be making underwater puppets in DT and will learn about Jacques Cousteau in our English lessons. He was an underwater explorer who invented the Aqualung.



English

In English this term we will be following the book-based themes outlined above. One of our key learning points will be to create descriptive writing pieces, such as, character descriptions and setting descriptions using adjectives. The children will have the opportunity to write a biographical report about British astronaut Sir Tim Peake. They will consolidate their understanding of sentence structure focussing on capital letters for proper nouns, using adjectives in expanded noun phrases and they will be introduced to conjunctions so they can join clauses. Children will take part in class-based phonics sessions until October half term. In these sessions the children will consolidate their understanding of phase 5 graphemes and will also look at alternative spellings for graphemes. After half term, children will receive discreet spelling lessons where we will explore spelling rules. Currently the children are completing Guided Reading as a carousel but half term they will move on to having whole class Guided Reading sessions.

Mathematics

In Mathematics, the children explore numbers to 100, looking at their place value and the different ways they can be represented. The children will work on counting in 2s, 5s and 10s, they compare numbers using inequality symbols ($<$, $>$, $=$) and then we move onto addition and subtraction.

Over the next few weeks, the children will be able to access 'Numbots' and 'Times Table Rockstars' at home. Your child's login will be sent out soon and they can play games 'Numbots' to help them develop their subitising skills, recall of number bonds and ability to mentally add and subtract. On 'Times Table Rockstars' your child will be able to practise their recall of the 2, 5 and 10 times table. Further guidance on how to access these applications will be sent out in due course.



Science

In Science our aim is to provide opportunities for practising the key scientific skills of observation and the ability to identify similarities and differences. The first half-term the children will be working scientifically when looking at the solar system. They will complete research about planets will describe the movement of earth and other planets in relation to the sun. After half-term children will focus on animals including humans. They will describe animals and their off spring. The children will then move on to describing a healthy diet and know that exercise is an important part of a healthy lifestyle. The children will have opportunities to carry out investigations and analyse results.

History

In the first half term the children will learn about the 1969 Apollo mission to the moon and what Neil Armstrong and his co-pilots did there. We then look at more modern space missions and the achievements of Sir Tim Peake on board the International Space Station.

Design Technology & Art

In Art this term they will begin with looking at sculptures. The children will create their own sculptures inspired by Anthony Gormley. They will explore sculptures that have been created by artists before exploring clay and how to manipulate it. The children will investigate and shape the clay before using a range of techniques to make their own clay figure. Once the figures are completed there will be a walking gallery where the children can look at each other's work and the final task will be to evaluate their sculpture.

The children will also complete their drawing unit where they will be exploring tone. They will learn to create different tones using light and dark pencils as well as charcoal.

The children will use the skills that they have learnt to sketch a moonscape. In the second half term the children will do DT where they will be designing, making and evaluating their own underwater puppet that they could use for imaginative play. The children will be given a design criteria to work towards and will be given the opportunity to complete three designs before choosing the final one that they want to make.



Music & PE

All the Year 2 children will have weekly Music lessons with either a specialist music teacher or their class teacher in the 1st half of term. The children will listen and appraise a variety of musical pieces and will then have the opportunity to compose their own music and write a graphic score. In P.E. the children will use the apparatus with Mr Smith and with their class teacher they will explore different ways to move their bodies.

PSHE/Religious Education

The children will have weekly PSHE sessions which will be taught by another member of staff during PPA sessions or by their class teacher. This half term PSHE will focus on Beginning and Belonging which is about building positive relationships, welcoming new people to the school and developing a network of support. After half term the children will focus on Family and Friends which is about developing positive friendships and how to deal with friendship issues.

In R.E. the children will be completing a theological unit based on why light is an important symbol to Christians, Hindus and Jews. The children will find out about the Nativity story, the story of Rama and Sita and Hanukah and will have the opportunity to explain why light is important in all or these stories/celebrations and compare them.

Computing

In computing the children will be looking at robot algorithms which introduces the children to simple coding. The children will use the Beebots to move a mapped route around the classroom.



Classroom agreements



The children have already recapped the 6R's and their importance and have been receiving house points which link to the 6R's. We have also explored the Zones of Regulation and how to use them. During the first week each class created their class charters with expected and unexpected behaviours and also created their oracy agreements.



Supporting your child's learning

In order to support your child's learning there are a range of things you can do at home, making it fun and relevant for them

- Read with and to your child regularly – whilst we believe it is important for the children to practising reading aloud to an adult daily, they also need to listen to good quality picture books being read to them as an opportunity to be exposed to texts that are currently beyond their own reading capability.
- Allow them to help around the house, using it as an opportunity to practise maths skills such as counting in 1s, 2s, 5s and 10s.
- Practise recalling number bonds to ten and 20 and multiplication facts for the 2, 5 and 10 times tables
- Support them to access Numbots and Times Table Rockstars when they are available
- Help them to practise spelling and phonic sounds or high frequency words.
- Engage your children in discussions about topical issues the world around them. There are specially produced newspapers for children as well as TV programmes such as 'Newsround'.
- Visit museums or famous landmarks linked to our themes.