

Curriculum Information

Ash

Spring Term 2 2018

Produced by:
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www.swansfield.northumberland.sch.uk



Africa!

Our topics for this term are ...

Geography: We will begin our topic by looking at the world map and by exploring Google Earth to find Africa. We will also name the other continents and the oceans. Through research, we will find out what life is like in Kenya and how it differs to our life in Britain. The children will also be actively involved in researching the answers to questions they ask about this huge continent!

Art: Children will investigate different types of African landscapes. We will make individual pictures with a water colour wash as a background and water colours to create grasses, flower heads and trees. They will also use different textures to create their own African masks.

Computing: We will use the internet to help research our topic and now we have School 360 passwords we will investigate this site and use some of the games to help us with English and maths skills.

RE: As Easter approaches we will listen to the Easter story and find out how Christians celebrate this important festival.

Science: Children will find out about different groups of animals like mammals, birds, amphibians, reptiles and fish. They will become familiar with the terms carnivore, herbivore and omnivore.

Music: We will learn some African songs and also continue our online programme on Charanga – “Round and Round”.

PSHE: Thinking about personal hygiene and taking medicines properly.

PE: Gymnastics (**Thursdays** – indoor PE kit – this should be a white t-shirt, purple shorts and sandshoes)

Outdoor topic activities (**Tuesdays** – outdoor PE kit)



English:

English involves the development of speaking and listening, reading fluency, comprehension and writing skills. Children will have many opportunities to develop their reading and comprehension skills both in the classroom and during weekly guided reading sessions. They will also be able to apply their skills across other areas of the curriculum during their topic work. Over the course of the year, children will experience a range of narrative, non-fiction and poetry texts.

This half term, we intend to explore stories and non-fiction, and use vocabulary related to Africa. Children are welcome to bring in books related to the topic.

You can find specific objectives for the half-term on your class page of the school website.

Mathematics:

In KS1, our aim is to ensure that pupils develop confidence and mental fluency with number, counting and place value. Our learning begins in a very practical way before moving to more formal methods. Children will also explore shapes, measurements, position and direction.

The children's ability to 'reason' will be developed throughout all of their mathematical work as they are encouraged to explain how they have reached solutions to problems.

This half term, we will be applying addition and subtraction skills in order to work out problems. We will continue to learn by heart number bonds to 10 and 20 and counting in fives and tens. We will compare weight by using non-standard units like cubes or cups moving onto measuring in grams.

You can find specific objectives for the half-term on your class page of the school website.

Homework & Spellings

Spellings: Spellings will be tested each **Tuesday**. New spellings will be given out on **Wednesdays**. The children will also get a maths skill to learn for eg. Number bonds to 10 or counting in twos. This will be set with the spellings.

Reading: Please ensure your child has read in time for their weekly Guided Reading session on a **Wednesday** so that they are able to participate fully. It also helps us out enormously if you have written a comment in their reading record each week. Please tell us if your child has found their reading book challenging or too easy. In addition, you could record their ability to understand the text and answer any questions you may have asked.

Other ways of helping your child:

- Visiting the library to look for books to support our topic.
- Using the Internet to research our topic.
- Discussing what has been taught at school.
- Playing English and Maths games on sites: www.ictgames.com , www.teachingideas.co.uk and www.school360.co.uk . The children now all have passwords for school 360; sometimes a homework task will be set on here.

We would be extremely grateful for donations of:

- Yoghurt pots and junk modelling boxes
- Broadsheet newspapers
- Spare PE kit and spare girl's underwear

Thank you for your continued support. Please do not hesitate to speak to myself or Lisa Baxter if you have any concerns.

Mrs Susan Young

