

Reception - Spring Term 2023

TOPIC TITLE	A Journey into the Forest.	A Journey on a Safari.
Why do we teach this at St Mary's?	This topic aims to promote a love of reading in all children. It allows children to find out about and explore familiar stories with strong narrative and immerses them in rich vocabulary. We use texts the children enjoy in order to encourage them to explore what already know and give them the confidence to play creatively and 'have a go' at new things using a safe base. They will make links between the different stories and choose their own ways to engage with the stories, which we encourage them to do with ambitious vocabulary.	We go 'on a safari' in order to excite the children about learning about similarities and differences. We think about ourselves and our own lives and then compare different ways of life. We learn about things that fascinate the children such as animal habits and use this interest to increase our knowledge and understanding of the world.
Deeper Learning and 'Stickability'	In this topic the children use well-loved stories such as <i>We're Going on a Bear Hunt</i> and <i>The Gruffalo</i> to play and interact with one another. They feel safe and familiar with these stories and love to join in and listen to them read and performed. The children will have the opportunity to visit a local Forest School as our school trip this term.	At the beginning of this topic the children use what they know to talk about themselves and their own lives. As the topic continues, they learn about other cultures such as in <i>Handa's Surprise</i> and begin to notice similarities, differences, patterns and change. They are encouraged to show interest in different ways of life and learn that everyone is different. We use the school environment the children know well to 'go on a safari' We use resources from the local environment to explore habitat and different animals.
In our Literacy lessons we will... Word reading Comprehension Writing	In Literacy lessons we will read 'The Gruffalo' by Julia Donaldson. We will share the story, encouraging the children to join in with the repeated phrases. We will use this story to inspire our writing, with the children engaging in role play and artwork to support this. The children will have the opportunity to write a variety of pieces including a shopping list and a letter.	
	We will listen to and be immersed in the following stories: The Gruffalo Owl Babies We're Going on a Bear Hunt Little Red Riding Hood We will continue to retell familiar stories, talk about key events and share our opinions.	We will explore the following stories: Handa's Surprise Rumble in the Jungle Non-Fiction texts about Safari animals We will learn new key vocabulary. We will explore non-fiction texts and discuss the new knowledge that we have learnt
	Children will explore different types of writing for purpose. They will be introduced to sentence writing. The children will write facts about bears, descriptions of the Gruffalo and wanted posters about the Big Bad Wolf.	The children will look at non-fiction texts for the first time and begin to understand the difference between fiction and non-fiction. The children will continue to explore writing for different purposes and writing full sentences. They will write a recount of their imaginary safari trip, a letter to Handa and a fact file about their favourite safari animal.
In our Maths lessons we will...	In the Spring term we will cover: Counting to 20 in different ways Addition including number bonds to 5 and 10 and finding one more than a given number Subtraction including finding one less than a given number 3D shapes Explore patterns of numbers up to 10 including odd and even numbers, doubles, halves and distributing equally Subitise up to 5	

Understanding the World	The children will explore the natural world around them by going on a walk in the local area from this they will learn how to draw simple maps. They will also identify and draw different animals and plants.	The children will learn about the natural environment in Africa. They will learn the similarities and differences between the natural world around them and this contrasting environment.
<u>Expressive Arts and Design</u> Creating with Materials Being Imaginative and Expressive	The children will go outside and use natural materials to re-create characters from a story. They will bake Gruffalo crumble and explain the process they have used. We will also create observational drawings of things that we see in the natural world.	The children will make 3D sculpture using paper mache to make animal heads working collaboratively sharing their ideas, resources and skills. The children will prepare, cut and taste fruit inspired by the story Handa's surprise.
<u>Personal, Social and Emotional Development</u> - Self-Regulation - Managing Self - Building Relationships	The children will investigate choices including good/bad choices. They will know and talk about the different factors that support their overall health and well-being including healthy eating, tooth brushing and road safety.	We will look at similarities and differences between ourselves and others.
<u>Physical Development</u> - Gross Motor Skills - Fine Motor Skills	The children will be doing gymnastics. They will learn balances and different types of basic roll.	The children will be doing dance. They will listen to different types of music and think about how we can move in different ways using different parts of our bodies. They will copy a sequences of movements and begin to put together their own.
Music	Learn some songs and rhymes about going to the woods, forest and trees. Learn to identify the sounds of the classroom instruments and choose some sounds to help retell the story of 'We're Going on a Bear Hunt'. Listen to a section of Beethoven's 5th Symphony alongside the story of Hansel and Gretel in the forest to learn about short and long sounds.	Listening to some of the pieces from Carnival of the Animals by Saint Saens, can we guess which animal it is? Can we move like the animals we can hear in the music? Listen to some other rhythmic music from Africa. Sing soh mi songs, and other chants and rhymes about animals.
RE	The topics for the Spring Term are: • Celebrating • Gathering • Growing	
RSHE	This term, the children will explore the following theme and units: Theme: Created to Love Others Unit 1- Religious Understanding Unit 2 – Personal Relationships Unit 3 – Keeping Safe	