



Learning Exploration: Salty and Fresh - Follow the River



Rationale for teaching:

This half term we will be exploring and expanding our knowledge of the local area, building on our understanding of rivers and how they lead to the sea. We will think about journeys and how these can be made in different ways across both land and water; real and imagined. We will build an understanding of how human choices have impacted the sea and the measures taken to prevent further damage.

Hook into learning:

- Letter from their old pet snail Peri, wishing and imagining for a journey around the world.
- Trip to the theatre to watch Snail and the Whale.
- Writing a letter to Greenpeace to express their feelings about keeping seas healthy and clean which they can post alongside a local litter pick.

Journey through the exploration

Starting with the story of the Snail and the Whale, the children will be immersed in the text through performance, songs, actions and story mapping. We will innovate the text to create our own version of an animal journeying through water, before inventing journey stories of our own.

We will explore the importance of Global Goal 14: Life Below Water. Through exposure to quality texts such as Duffy's Lucky Escape and Dear Greenpeace we will work towards the goal of writing our own letter to Greenpeace using words to express our feelings.

We will then consolidate our understanding of non-fiction text by learning and creating our own information page about sea creatures. We will use clay to create real and imagined creatures of the sea.



Parent/Carer Curriculum Information

Reception

Linked areas

Through this exploration, learning will be linked where appropriate, in all the following areas:

Prime Areas of Learning:

- Communication and Language
- PSED
- Physical Development

Specific Areas of Learning:

- Understanding the World
- Expressive Arts and Design



Maths

Children will be consolidating the key skills of:

- Subitising
- Counting
- Composition
- sorting and matching,
- comparing and ordering

Children will also explore:

- Making shapes
- Doubling
- Sharing
- Grouping
- Odd and Even
- Predict
- Problem solving- story link
- Capacity
- Building bridges
- Cuisenaire Rods
- Patterns
- Making Maps



Writing



Key texts to inspire our writing:

- The Snail and the Whale
- Duffy's Lucky Escape
- Dear Greenpeace
- National Trust – Look what I found at the seaside

Guided Group Writing:

All of our writing is now focusing on retaining what they would like to write, and presenting it with correctly formed letters, in spaced out words.

- Thinking about where they would like to go and writing as a structured sentence.
- Imagining what it would be like at that place and writing it as a postcard.
- Writing own shortened version of a journey story.
- Sharing a message by creating a poster to share with a group of people.
- Sharing a message to a particular person by writing a letter.
- Writing about animal facts from the seaside.

Writing opportunities within provision:

- Opportunities to create and read from story maps.
- Sharing their stories at the end of the day as part of their reading for pleasure.
- Filling in postcards to post in school post boxes.
- Children are encouraged to write independently using sound mats for support. Children are given purpose for writing as part of everyday routine. If children would like to share their news, they can put their name and what they would like to share in the 'show and tell' book.





Opportunities for shared outcomes



Children will have the opportunity to produce or take part in one or more of the following:

- Participation in litter pick
- Letter writing to Greenpeace

Opportunities to build cultural capital

Cultural capital is the essential knowledge that pupils need to be educated citizens, introducing them to the best that has been thought and said, and helping to engender an appreciation of human creativity and achievement. At NCSPA, we aim to build cultural capital through experiences such as trips, visitors, music and providing local links. For Reception, options this term may include:

- Providing all children within Reception the opportunity to visit the theatre to experience story telling in a different form. Travelling by coach to provide them with an experience different to everyday life and one which they may use or aspire to in the future.
- All children have been given the opportunity to begin the journey of learning to read and write, setting up their opportunities for life through education.

Opportunities to address Equality, Diversity and Inclusion

Ways of travel; are they available to all people? Conscious choice, just because you can do something, does it mean you should? Looking at the effects of pollution and waste from travel and the rubbish making its way to the ocean.

How can we all try our best. Is everyone's best the same? You may be small, but a little can still make a big change. We all have something which makes us important.

Further curriculum information

If you would like any further information regarding the curriculum, please:

- Speak to Mrs Willson, Mrs King or Mrs Nelson.
- See your child's class information on Seesaw.
- Contact Mrs Louisa Buttell (Curriculum Leader), through the school office.
- Visit the Curriculum pages on our website.

