



## Learning Exploration: Dynamic Dynasty

Having learnt about the history of the UK during the Early Middle Ages earlier in year 5, children will broaden their understanding of world history through the exploration of the achievements of early civilisations and how these have shaped the world today. Following our recent geographical exploration, where the children learnt about one of China's major rivers (The Yellow River), this exploration will build on their understanding of the river today and its importance to life in China which will allow us to journey back to its significance during the Shang Dynasty.

### Hook into learning:

Year 5 will become archaeologists and decipher what various artefacts and pictures tell them. The children will be challenged to predict which period of history the artefacts are from and explain why they think this. They will also be challenged to use their geographical understanding of the Yellow River and further clues to work out precisely which period of history we are studying.

### Journey through the exploration

Children will begin this exploration by **placing the Shang Dynasty onto a historical timeline**, considering its place in history compared to previous studies such as the Anglo-Saxons and Vikings. Once children have developed an understanding of where the Shang Dynasty is placed in history, they will then begin to consider the key question: **what was happening in other parts of the world during this same period of time?** Additionally, children will answer the key question **what was life like during the Shang Dynasty for different people?** They will become archaeologists and explore a range of sources to draw conclusions about life during this time period. While exploring life during this time, **children will explore the Shang religion and different ritual elements**. While children study rituals, they will discover 'ritual vessels' and explore these as a historical source which will lead into our **art study of sculpture where children will be tasked to create their own ritual vessel as a sculpture from clay**.

When investigating life for different groups of people during this time, children will answer the key question: **what were some of the power structures within the civilisation?** After developing their understanding of the Shang Dynasty, **children will consider how the Shang Dynasty has influenced our society today**.



# Parent/Carer Curriculum Information

## Year 5

### Linked subjects

Through this exploration, learning will be linked where appropriate, including in the following subjects:

- History
- Art
- English

Pupils will also learn the following subjects discretely:

- Primary Languages
- Science
- RE
- PSHE
- Computing
- Maths

### Maths

Linked to their Learning Exploration, children will be:

- Position and direction
- Decimals
- Converting units of measure
- Negative numbers
- Volume



### Writing

Children will explore the following genres of writing:

- Narrative based on the film 'Shadow Cage'
- Non-fiction information text – 'The Genius of the Ancients' series by Izzi Howell and Sonya Newland

Opportunities for writing across the curriculum, linked to current or previous learning:

- Explanation text linked to science – human study



# Parent/Carer Curriculum Information

Year 5



## Opportunities for shared outcomes

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

- Y5/6 Production
- A sculpture art gallery of Y5 vessels.  
Y5 will decide how to display the sculptures they will be working on throughout the term.



## 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 Year 5, options this term may include:

- Shang Dynasty drama workshop
- Taking part in the Y5/6 production

## Opportunities to address Equality, Diversity and Inclusion

Exploring an ancient civilisation from an alternative culture to our own will help children to build their understanding of diversity and the importance of respect. Additionally, building on the concept of gender, the children will also take a look at the first female Chinese general, Fu Hao, who, like many other women in history after her, showed that women can show just as much power as men!

Through the lens of this Chinese era, the will children explore democracy, governance, politics and persuasions and the laws and values that we adhere to...including a close look at British values and what these mean to the UK and our place in today's European and global community.

## Further curriculum information

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

- Speak to Mrs Gregory, Mrs Williams or Miss Pennington.
- See your child's class information on Seesaw.
- Contact Mrs Louisa Buttel (Curriculum Leader), through the school office.
- Visit the Curriculum pages on our website.



Summer Term 2, 2024