

Literacy

In Literacy we will look at poetry that has been written about the sea, including:

- 'The Sea,' by John Foster
- 'The Sea,' by James Reeves
- And 'Until I Saw the Sea,' by Lilian Moore.

In studying these poems, we will identify literary devices such as alliteration, strong verbs, interesting adjectives, similes and metaphors. The children will perform these poems in a way that makes the meaning clear to their audience. They will then be challenged to change and innovate each poem so that they can hang their ideas on an existing structure. This will enable the children to write their own effective poems inspired by the changing moods of the sea.

Following our poetry focus, we will move onto looking at recounts as a specific form of information text. By reading a recount of the RMS Titanic's maiden voyage, we will identify the key language and organisational features of this text type. In learning about the brave rescue mission carried out by Grace Darling and her father, we will then write our own recounts of the SS Forfarshire disaster. The children will focus in particular on sustaining the past tense and using the -ed spelling pattern rules accurately.

In the last two weeks of our topic we will look at our shared text 'The Secret of Black Rock' by Joe Todd Standton. We will look at the similarities between this story and the real events of Grace Darling and write a recount of the events.

Expressive Arts and Design

Art and Design

We will use a range of materials to create some 'Big Art' related to our All at Sea theme.

The children will develop their painting skills and use techniques in line, colour, shape, space and pattern to create a picture of Longshore Lighthouse at sea.

Design and Technology

The children will then be challenged to design a model rescue boat which can carry 3 Lego passengers to safety. We will focus on communicating our ideas clearly and evaluating our outcomes.

PSHE

We will talk about our rules and responsibilities within the classroom and link this to how the role of a Lighthouse keeper is to keep us safe.

The children will explore their feelings and emotions at the beginning of the year. We will talk about how Grace Darling felt.

Linking to our topic we will talk about keeping safe around water.

Understanding the World

History

We will be learning about a significant national event beyond living memory as part of this topic: The SS Forfarshire shipwreck and rescue. The children will learn about the many factors that contributed to the disaster occurring and that made the rescue mission more challenging.

In studying this event from History, the children will learn about the life of a significant person from the past – Grace Darling. In particular, they will find out about her family life in Longshore Lighthouse, her role in the rescue, and the impact that this had for the future. The children will recognise that as a result of the disaster and Grace's brave rescue mission, the need for an organisation such as the RNLI became apparent.

All At Sea



Enrichment

The children will kick-start this topic by predicting who the lady in the photograph might be and what she might be remembered for today. They will ask questions to help them unpick the story behind the photographs and then be challenged to work out the sequence of events in the SS Forfarshire disaster from picture clues.

We will organise a visit to school from the RNLI so that we can find out how rescues are conducted at sea today and how things have changed since Grace's heroic mission.

For our end of topic celebration we will be sharing our paper cut movies and lighthouse models with parent/carers.

Understanding the World

Geography

Using a map of the UK, we will plot the route of the SS Forfarshire from Hull to Dundee. In doing so we will look closely at the UK's countries as well as the relevant seas and capitals.

When we look at the RMS Titanic disaster, we will plot its route from Southampton to New York. Again, we will identify relevant oceans and continents on a world map.

Computing

The children will work in groups to create an animation of the SS Forfarshire shipwreck and rescue. They will use the ipads to photograph each of the stills that they set-up with their props. They will then use i-movie software to retrieve the images that they have stored and convert them into an animation.

Science

The children will learn how to build a simple electrical circuit in order to light a bulb as part of their model lighthouses.

We will perform simple tests to find out if different materials are waterproof and whether they float or sink. The children will observe the materials closely and draw conclusions. They will use their findings to inform their DT project.

Maths

In maths the children will begin by looking at place value. This will help them to understand addition and subtraction. We will start by using practical resources before moving on to written methods eg number lines.

The children will also use measuring equipment to measure their raft boats and the depth of water.