

Literacy

Our focus text for this theme will be 'Wolves' by Emily Gravett. To begin, we will be discussing and analysing the structure in which this book's layout – an informative non-fiction text about wolves coinciding with a story that comes to life through illustrations!

From the story, we will draw out facts about wolves and turn them into the lines of a kenning poem. We will then begin to think about using better word choices to create interest and awe for the reader. In particular we will focus on using strong verbs, alliteration and similes to create a second, descriptive poem.

Later in the term, the children will begin to learn different ways of retrieving information as a lead up to writing a non-chronological report about wolves. They will have the chance to search for even more facts about wolves through books, reports and even surfing the web! During this time we will also begin to look at the features of non-chronological reports such as paragraphs and sub-headings.

Returning to 'Wolves' the ending of the book, as well as its comical alternative ending, will finally be revealed! The children will then be given a chance to re-write the endings to some well-known traditional tales involving wolves.

As a conclusion to our topic we will be watching and mapping out some episodes of the hit children's TV show 'Funny Bones'. They will then be given a chance to innovate a story with a setting, characters and a plot on a story mountain. The children will then re-tell their stories by focusing on a clear sequence of events and speaking in the past tense. And then time for the big finale! Using iPads and their carefully designed scene and props, the children will write and produce their funny bones story!

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

Throughout this theme there will be opportunities for children to learn about the human body and how we can look after it and keep it healthy. We will be covering ways in which the body could be harmed and how to avoid this. In addition to this linking to our trip to the New Forest Wildlife Park the children will discuss how to keep safe in different environment.

Science

The children will use to the vocabulary 'endoskeleton' and 'exoskeleton' to classify animals. They will compare animals with a skeleton to those without.

During our topic the children will be learning about the human skeleton including the names of common bones and joints. We will begin by making our own pasta skeletons to represent the human skeleton. We will discuss why we chose certain shaped pasta for certain bones before linking this to their scientific names. We will learn that skeletons are needed for support, protection and movement. Following this we will compare the human skeleton to that of a wolf!

As an engaging way to think about our teeth children will use apples (to bite into!) and playdough to make and learn the names of their own teeth! We will compare our teeth to those of a wolf and suggest reasons for the differences, taking our diets into consideration. We will explore how both humans and wolves get their nutrition. In particular, for humans, we will research different food groups and how they keep us healthy.



WOLVES

Emily Gravett



Enrichment

To begin our topic, the children will make their own pasta skeletons!

We will be visiting the New Forest Wildlife Park to observe a pack of wolves. The park keepers will deliver a workshop about wolves to support us in acquiring new knowledge. Before our trip, the children will plan questions for the park keepers to answer during our workshop. Back at school, the children will be turning their facts into a non-chronological reports about wolves.

Expressive Arts and Design

Design and Technology

Using Papier Mache, plasticine, pasta and cotton buds the children will construct their own skeletons.

Art

In art we will be learning all about the artist Wolf Kahn and having a go at re-creating our own abstract forest paintings.

The children will also discuss and analyse the page in 'Wolves' that metaphorically shows a wolf in the shape of a tree. They will be given the chance to design and recreate their own animal metaphor sketch.

Music

The children will watch 'the joyful skeleton' performance and learn to play simple rhythmic pieces on wooden percussion instruments.

Children will listen to the song 'Dem bones', based on the story of 'The valley of the bones' from Ezekiel. Children will learn to sing 'Dem bones' with percussion accompaniment.

Mathematics

During this topic the children will have a chance to direct 'Dog-bot' around a map of the Funnybones setting: 'A dark dark town....'

We will be using quarter turns, half turns and three quarter turns to guide Dog.

Computing

The children will have the opportunity to learn all about wolves using a variety of ways to retrieve information. They will also be using iPads and I-motion to recreate a Funny bones episode.

Religious Education

Throughout this half term we will examine how we are called to be part of God's creation through baptism. This will also be linked to learning about the initiation rite of the Hindu faith and other religions.