

Literacy

Our focus text this term is *The Tin Forest*. To make the most of our exciting transformation of the classroom into an imaginary Tin Classroom we will begin the topic by writing diary entries from our own perspectives on 'The day my classroom turned to tin'. Following this, the children will be given the opportunity to create scenes from the book using a range of art techniques. The children will add 3d descriptive phrases to their masterpieces. We will be looking at expressive language, including alliteration, onomatopoeia and personification – all of which feature within our text. We will be discussing the phrases and words used that help the reader to understand how the character is feeling and how the author has described the unusual setting of a forest full of tin.

After turning our 'Tin Classroom' into a 'Tin Forest', the children will write their second diary entry. This time, in the role of the old man who lived within the forest in our book. We will look at making our sentences more complex by using commas for relative clauses. For our final diary entry of the term, the children will use hot seating to get into the role of the old man. We will be thinking about his hopes and dreams. In particular we will consider how important they must be to him, knowing where he lives and how he feels. The children will create 'Dream jars' to help them visualise his dreams before writing their diary entry.

Later in the term, we will discover that within the book we begin to understand that the 'forest' is actually a junk yard! The children will write a persuasive letter to our school encouraging others to recycle. In this, they will practise their editing skills by thoroughly checking their work and ensuring it makes sense, is correctly punctuated and has persuasive vocabulary that grabs the reader's attention. They will be designing posters using persuasive language to support their campaign.

The children will then write their final persuasive letter. This time, they will be writing to Blue Peter to persuade the TV presenters that they deserve to be awarded a green Blue Peter badge. In their letters, the children will inform the reader of all the eco-friendly things that they have done during our topic so far in order to help protect our planet!

Music

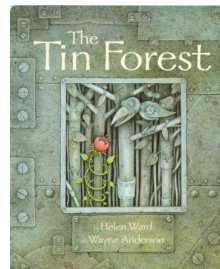
Inspired by the group 'Stomp', the children will make their own instruments out of recycled materials. They will then create their own samba-style piece of music to perform during our class assembly!

Science

This term, the children will be learning all about plants and how they grow. Stemming from the idea of whether plants can survive in a tin forest, we will be discussing the vital things plants need to germinate and to then continue to grow into healthy plants. From this, the children will then be challenged to germinate their own seeds and nurture a healthy plant which will be added to our tin forest boxes.

Linking to recycling, the children will be revisiting their knowledge of different materials. We will discuss how and why materials are sorted for recycling. Using the hook of 'Toy story 3', focussing on the scene in which the toys almost reach an unkindly end in the trash vent, we will discuss the concept of 'magnetism'. The children will have lots of time to investigate practically with magnets to identify materials which have magnetic properties and those which don't.

Tin Forest



Enrichment

Diving into our topic, the children will be blown away from day one! The Year 3 classrooms will be transformed into a 'Tin Forest'. The children will be given the chance to add to this in their first week back, so it becomes their own!

Throughout the term, the children will be visited by special guests who will inform us about the importance of recycling, promoting it both within school and at home. We will then spread this message throughout the school and start a recycling competition between each class and their teachers.

For the school Christmas Fair, Year 3 will be running an eco-friendly stall. We will organise a Christmas jumper swap as well as make decorations out of recyclable materials.

Expressive Arts and Design

Art, Design and Technology

At the beginning of our topic, the children will sculpt recyclable materials to turn our classroom into a tin forest.

Inspired by the old man's dreams, the children will continue to improve their art and design techniques by creating their own dream jars. From plastecine, they will create mini sculptures within a jar!

For our Christmas Fair, the children will be making a range of decorations including tin can lanterns and Christmas wreaths. The decorations will be made, using only recycled materials, to sell on our eco-friendly stall!

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

The children will be focusing on understanding and managing feelings by looking at how the old man felt in the book and the strategies that he used to cope with his situation. Inspired by the old man, they will set their own personal goals, thinking about positive achievements, mistakes and recognising their worth. They will also be thinking about what affects them, and others around them, have on the world.

Linking to our new recycling scheme within school, the children will be creating their own St. Peter's laws to promote the care and appreciation of looking after our lovely school!

Mathematics

During this topic, the children will be focusing on their 3, 4 and 8 times tables. They will use practical and written methods to calculate the answers to multiplication and division problems.

The children will also be using their maths skills in real life contexts. Each class within the school will be given a recycling bin. At the end of each week, the amount of materials recycled will be noted and all the information will be accumulated at the end of the term. Using information collected from the school Year 3 will make graphs and keep track of who is winning in the recycling competition!