

Literacy

To begin our topic, the children will be challenged to solve a series of riddles from Uzbekistan to see if they can work out any clues about our new topic! The children will then have a go at writing their own riddles based on objects from Central Asia eg *silk and pomegranate*

Focusing on using fronted adverbials to show how, or when, we will be writing instructions for some of the things that we make including foods traditional to Central Asia (plaited bread and plov). We will look at the difference between a set of instructions and an explanation text. We will use our knowledge to write an explanation of 'How felt is made'.

Focusing on stories from Central Asia, we will learn that not all stories are told with books and that in many parts of the world they are told through the spoken word. During a visit from Sally Pomme Clayton, we will listen to different stories from her book that she heard and write down during her own travels through Central Asia.

As we re-tell the stories in our own words, we will be focusing on using fronted adverbials to show where, when, or how an action is happening. We will be looking at different sentence structures. In particular, we will evaluate the effect of short sentences and look at examples where they create pace, suspense or effect.

Throughout their writing, there will be plenty of opportunities for the children to revisit direct speech. Using apostrophes for possession will also be a focus.

The children will then become Storytellers themselves! We will have an opportunity to create our own shadow puppets and re-tell the story in groups. Following this, the children will complete an independent write to re-tell their final story.

Geography

At the beginning of our topic we will use maps and globes to locate the continent Asia. We will then look closer at Central Asia – a vast area containing the countries Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Afghanistan. As we tell tales from our Power of Reading text, we will find out where the stories originated and label this information on our maps.

We will find out that the landscape of Central Asia ranges from flat steppe land and deserts to mountain. The climate is extreme with the weather changing from scorching sun in the summer to driving snow in the winter. We will compare the similarities and differences to our own climate.

Enrichment

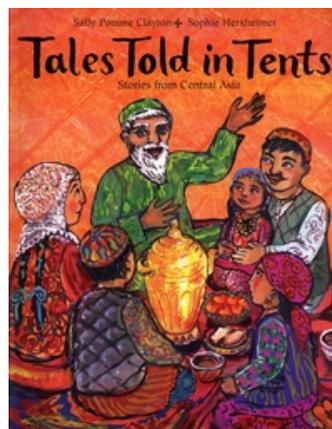
To begin our exciting journey to Central Asia, the children will have the opportunity to try lots of different Asian food – from cheese to tea as well as lots of amazing dried fruits!

We will have a visit from Sally Pomme Clayton who is the author of *Tales Told in Tents*. She will tell us several stories from her books and talk about Central Asia and her travels there!

As well as looking at story tellers, we will be thinking about how important tents are in other cultures. The children will become tent designers and challenged to build their own tents where they can enjoy popular foods from Central Asia!

To celebrate the end of our topic, parents will be invited to school to watch us re-tell some of our favourite stories from *Tales Told in Tents* using shadow puppetry!

Tent-Tastic Tales



Science

The children will be introduced to light and the sources of light which are needed for us to be able to see things.

We will find out that shadows are created when a light source is blocked by an opaque object. We will investigate what happens to a shadow when the object is moved closer to or further away from the light source.

Following this, we will learn how to re-tell our favourite stories from 'Tales Told in Tents' using shadow puppetry, an ancient form of storytelling and entertainment from Asia!

Expressive Arts and Design Design and Technology

Through reading 'The Secret of Felt' the children will learn that felt was first discovered in Central Asia. We will have a go at making our own felt. We will look at samples of felt which has been decorated with intricate, curly patterns. We will find out that the patterns have special names and are based on the things people see around them every day.

We will look at the detailing on shadow puppets from Asia to inspire us in designing and making our own. The children will design and cut out their puppets ready to perform!

Cooking and Nutrition

We will learn the word 'dasturxon' which means both "tablecloth" and "hospitality". We will taste test different foods that are generously offered in nomadic societies as part of their story-telling tradition including: tea, pomegranate, green pepper and dried apricots.

We will have a go at making both 'plaited bread' and 'plov' which is made out of soft rice and raisins.

Religious Studies

In our topic book *Tales told in tents* a girl travels around Central Asia in the hopes of finding meaningful stories from different countries and faiths. The children will learn that the main religion in Central Asia is 'Islam'. We will be learning all about Islam and understanding the links between the messages within their stories and those we are used to in our own faith.

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

Reading *Zarina's Orchard*, will remind us that we are lucky to have clean, running water from our taps. In role as Zarina, we will walk to the river to collect water – trying not to spill any on the journey home! We will consider the hardship that Zarina and many others face.

Mathematics

When following different recipes from Central Asia, we will need to use our mathematical skills to measure out our ingredients using both mass (Kg/g) and capacity (L/ml).

In role as Zarina, we will measure the correct amount of water from the river. When we return, we will measure it again and find the difference between the two amounts to see how much we have spilt!

In statistics, we will be collecting information about our topic to answer questions such as 'Which was our favourite tale?' or 'what was the most popular food tasted?' This will help us to decide which foods we should serve and which tales we should tell during our fabulous finish!