



**Year Two**  
**Spring Two**  
**The Circle of Life**



**English**

In English, we will continue to look at a range of texts both fiction and non-fiction.

As readers, we will be looking carefully at the features of non-fiction texts and how they aid the reader to choose and locate information within the text. We will also continue to develop our retrieval and inference skills.

As writers, children will be developing their skills when writing explanations, looking particularly at the features of this text type has and how to set them out correctly on the page.

In narrative, we will be using the text, 'A Tadpole's Promise' by Jeanne Willis. We will explore the themes of change and promises within the text and think carefully about how the characters' feelings change throughout the story.

Key Vocabulary

heading, flow chart, label, caption, glossary, contents page, conjunctions, time-related openers, sequencing, characters, setting, change, nature, seasons, promises, apology

**Mathematics – Multiplication and Division**

In this unit the children will learn to focus on two methods of division (grouping and sharing), and how to calculate using these two different strategies. The children will be introduced to the division sign ( $\div$ ). The children will learn the importance of equal groups when dividing, and how to distinguish between the number of equal groups and the number in one group. Bar models will be used to represent both grouping and sharing problems. Within this unit, children will also make the link between division and multiplication facts. They will be asked to match a multiplication sentence to the inverse division sentence, and to work out missing numbers based on facts from one of the operations. Children will use a 100 square to spot patterns for numbers that can be divided by 2, 5 and 10. They will make generalisations between different division facts and fact families, for example, all numbers that can be divided by 5 end in 0 or 5. Children will also build on their knowledge of dividing by 2 to explore what it means for a number to be even and odd. They will start to recognise when numbers are odd by considering the ones digit.

Key Vocabulary

divide, division, the division sign ( $\div$ ), share, group, odd, even, times-tables, equal groups, number of equal groups

**Art and Design**

As artists the children will continue to develop their observational drawing skills. We will be looking at the artwork of Vincent Van Gogh and will try to imitate his style in our own artwork. We will look at his works, Sunflowers and The Starry Night.



**RE**

This half-term children will be encouraged to think about the symbols and signs of new life that we see at spring time. We will link this to the Easter story and children will be encouraged will think about and discuss why Easter is an important time for Christians.

Key Vocabulary

Christianity, Judaism, Passover, Easter, Palm Sunday, Good Friday, Easter Sunday, disciples, crucifixion, resurrection, tomb, palm leaves, Pontius Pilot, Jesus Christ.

**Music**

This term we will be continuing to use the Charanga Music Scheme. Our learning will focus around the song "I Wanna Play In A Band" by Joanna Mangona. I Wanna Play In A Band is a Rock song written especially for children. In this song the children will learn about singing and playing together in an ensemble. During lessons, children will also be learning to sing, play, improvise and compose with this song, children will listen and appraise classic Rock songs.

**Science**

As scientists we will be learning about the life cycles of animals and plants. Children will observe how plants grow and begin to investigate the requirements of plants for growth and survival, as well as the process of reproduction and growth in plants. They will also learn about a variety of different animal life cycles, including humans.

Key Vocabulary

adult, young, life cycle, grow, change, animals, mammals, birds, reptiles, amphibians, fish, seeds, bulbs, seedlings, mature plants, germination, survival

**PSHCE**

In PSHCE, children will be discussing how they have changed from birth to the present. They will be encouraged to think about how they will continue to change as they grow older and consider the things that they will be able to do as they grow older that they can't do now. E.g. learn to drive, get a job etc. Children will consider and sort things that will stay the same as they get older and things that will change.

**Physical Education**

In Dance the children will be encouraged to perform movements to music, while they learn about a variety of farm animals, jungle animals and animals from ice and snow environments.

In our Core Real PE lessons the children will be developing their physical skills to perform a sequence of movements with some changes in level, direction or speed.

**Computing**

Learning will focus on programming using the software Turtle Logo and Scratch. In this unit, children will learn what algorithms are, how they are implemented as programs on digital devices and that programs execute by following precise and ambiguous instructions. They will create and debug simple programs and use logical reasoning to predict the behaviour of simple programs using Turtle Logo.

**Key Vocabulary**

algorithm, instructions, commands, forward (fd), left (lt), right (rt), move, turn, clear screen (cs), variable,

**Visits and Visitors**

Learning this half-term, will focus on growth and change within plants and animals. We have some exciting learning experiences planned. The children will have the opportunity to observe the chicks hatching and watch them grow and develop.

**How can you help at home?**

\*Please encourage your child to participate in our Redscope Reading Challenge. We have a range of fantastic age-appropriate books which are perfect to share as a family. All children should be reading for 15 minutes at least three times per week and these sessions should be logged in their planner.

\*All children learn a new spelling pattern/rule each week. Please discuss the rule with your child and help them to learn the spellings that they have been given.

\*In maths, please encourage your child to access TTRockstars. This programme builds on the learning that is completed in class and helps children learn their times tables. In Year 2, children must learn the 2, 5 and 10 X tables and learn the corresponding division facts.

\*As part of our Circle of Life project, all children should complete a project that they are interested in. Children must choose one or more projects and they may present their work in any way they like. The more creative and individual, the better. Children's learning will be celebrated in school and rewards will be given for participation.

- Plant a seed at home and keep a diary as it grows.
- Find out about the life cycle of an unusual animal and create an information text about it.
- Create a piece of art using pressed flowers.
- Create a 3D lifecycle of the frog or butterfly
- Make some life cycle themed multiplication cards.
- Go on a nature walk and write a list of all the plants and animals you see.