



Brookvale Primary School

Curriculum Overview

Reception

Class Literature: 'Mad about Minibeasts' by Giles Andreae

Class Nursery Rhyme: 'If I were a Minibeast'

Primary Curriculum Focus: Understanding the World

Communication and Language: Alongside our topic this week the children will be practicing for their class assembly which is based around the story of 'Jack and the Beanstalk'. Many children will have been given lines to learn from a script and all the children will be taught how to speak and act in front of an audience. Alongside practicing for the play, the children will be thinking about our related topic 'What lurks in the garden?' They will be encouraged to listen attentively to facts they are told about different minibeasts in the school garden and respond to what they hear with relevant questions, comments or actions.

Literacy: In writing, the children will be encouraged to use adjectives (describing words) to help them describe the appearance of the different minibeasts that will be looked at throughout the week. The children will be using their phonic skills to create their own minibeast fact files. They will also be reading sentences about minibeasts and matching them to the correct photo.

Maths: The topic for this week's maths is making 11-15 and counting patterns. During lesson time the children will be looking at the composition of the numbers 11, 12, 13, 14 and 15. The children will use the Numicon shapes to make the numbers and see if they can spot any patterns as they do. During continuous provision, the children will be using minibeast numbers to subitise and sort odd and even numbers.

PSED: Throughout the week teachers will be encouraging the children to see if they are able to be confident to try new activities and show independence, resilience, and perseverance in the face of any challenges they have. This could involve trying a new number activity which will be largely based around minibeasts or even finding minibeasts under logs and having a go at sketching one!

Physical Development: In PE the children will continue the unit on games. The children will be learning how to score and how to do it honestly! The children will also be learning how to point their feet towards the target which they are aiming at when throwing or kicking.

Understanding the World: Unfortunately, we were unable to go on the spring walk last week but hopefully the children will be going this Wednesday. They will use the iPads to take photographs of any minibeasts they find. The children will be learning about the important role that mini beasts have in the natural world. They will learn that mini beasts are a source of food for larger insects and that they also help to decompose the environment around them.

Expressive Arts & Design: Children will be creating butterflies using collage. They will also use play dough and loose parts to create minibeast creatures for our classroom garden. We then hope to use some of this artwork to create a new springtime display board for our creative area. Music this week will be continuing to learn the songs for our class assembly next half term.

Phonics: In phonics the children will be learning the sounds /ur/ as in purse and /ou/ as in ow. They will also be taught the common exception words **come, do, so**.

Spelling: This month's spellings are: here, must, big, high, such, follow, act, why, ask, men. The children will be taught a new spelling each day and the meaning of the word if it is unfamiliar.

Year 1

Class Literature: 'Lost in Space' By Mini Grey

English: After a wonderful week in English, the children have become fully immersed in our new story. This week they will start by creating labels for each of the toys. When writing the label, the children will include two adjectives to give a structured



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description of each toy. Next, as the story becomes more exciting, the children will listen as the toys are taken into space. They will begin to sequence the events using past verbs and 'ed' endings. They will write a series of descriptive sentences about their space character before drawing it following their description.

Phonics: This week, Group 1 will focus on the sounds ea as in peach and Group 2 will focus on the sounds u and u-e as in cube. Group 3 will focus on the sounds 'mb' as in comb and 'kn' as in knot.

Maths: The children will begin this week by practically counting in 5's before moving on to completing their work on counting to 5. Once secure in counting in 2's, 5's and 10's, the children will move on to recognising equal groups, and then adding equal groups.

Science: The topic for this term is On Safari. For this topic, children are invited to go on a safari. The word safari comes from the Arabic word meaning 'journey', which is exactly what this is – a journey to hunt for animals. The children begin the unit by thinking about what is a safari and what items they would need to take with them. Their ideas will help the class to know what to take on their own safari in the school grounds. This links back to their prior understanding of what to take to the Arctic. Next, the children will then go on a 'safari' out in the playground. They will begin their search for minibeasts, bugs and invertebrates using hand lenses to observe each minibeast, bug or invertebrate. They will notice what their body structure looks like, how they move and how many legs and/or wings they have. The children will classify each insect they find and bring their knowledge back into the classroom.

History: After finding out who Grace Darling is and why she became famous, this week the children will be considering the key question 'What was Grace Darling's everyday life like?' The children will recall prior information they know about living in Victorian times and compare this to how Grace lived. They will understand how Grace was schooled and what jobs her and her siblings had to do every day.

Geography: This week the children will be traveling to Asia. The children will be able to locate Asia on the map and they will learn it is the biggest continent. They will then zoom into China. The children will identify and describe some of the key features and characteristics of China before creating a mini fact file of China.

Religious Education: Following on from last week, where the children learnt what Hindus believe, this week the children will find out about special celebrations in a Hindu childhood. The children will learn the special celebrations are called samskaras. There are 16 samskaras in total, 3 before the baby is born and the rest finishing when the child is around 4 years old.

Personal Development & Wellbeing: Through our ongoing safeguarding education, this week the children will learn about the NSPCC PANTS underwear rule. The children will learn their underwear covers up their private parts and no one should ask to see or touch them. Sometimes a doctor, nurse or family members might have to. But they should always explain why and ask them if it's alright first. The children will remember the key message, what's in your pants belongs only to you.

Design Technology: In their new unit 'Wheels and axles' the children this week will learn how a wheel moves. They will identify each part of the mechanism that allows a wheel to move with a focus on the vocabulary wheel, axle and axle holder. The children will investigate a range of items that has wheels and then try to replicate the mechanism using straws paper and card.

Computing: The children this week will use the photographs they took last week and begin to edit them. They will learn how to crop an image, change the colour temperature and saturation.

Music: Learning the notes C, D and E on the glockenspiel. The children will explore the steady beat, playing high and low notes, then slow and quickly. They will be encouraged to explain the differences between the two contrast ways of playing. They will then work towards learning the song, Dress Up.

Physical Education: In athletics this week, the children will be focusing on developing a foundation for balance and stability. In net and wall, the children will be focusing on learning to play against an opponent and keep the score. They will play games such as hotspot and catch tennis.



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Spelling: The focus for this week is the vowel sound 'ow' and 'ou'. The children will spell words such as how, down, mouth and sound.

Grammar: The focus for this week is the noun suffixes – es. The children will be encouraged to recall words they can add on the es suffix to eg: lunches**es**, buses**es** and gases**es**.

Year 2

Class Literature: The Three Little Wolves and the Big Bad Pig by Eugene Trivizas

English Reading: Continuing our learning using the text "The Last Wolf" by Mini Grey, children will examine Mom's response to "I'm off to catch a wolf". Children will discuss why Little Red would want to catch a wolf, what will happen if she catches a wolf? Children will compare this version of the familiar story with others and read "Little Red" by Bethan Woolvin.

English Writing: Continuing with our key text; "The Dragon Machine", children will learn how to write an exclamation sentence starting with what or how and understand the need for it to contain a subject and a verb. Children will write commands for taking care of dragons. For example; Keep away from pets, shut your front door and do not let a dragon enter. Children will also learn that a sentence might start differently using words such as always or never. For example; Never take a dragon to a sweet shop!

Maths: This week children will continue their learning of multiplication and division. Children will learn to divide by 10, using their understanding of place value from the Autumn term to understand how the number gets smaller when it is divided by 10. Children will also progress during the week to dividing by 5. They will create arrays and groups and use concrete resources to support their understanding. The 5- and 10-times tables will also be rehearsed this week to support the children's understanding of the link between division and multiplication.

Science: Continuing our learning on habitats, this week children will learn about what an animal or plant needs to survive in its habitat. Children will think about the micro habitats we discovered in the grounds of school in our previous lesson and think about all the factors each habitat had to have to keep the plants and animals alive. In class children will make their own microhabitat dioramas using materials to represent each factor in the microhabitat.

History: This week children will continue their learning about pioneers and begin to learn about Florence Nightingale. Why was she significant? Children will begin to learn about why she was a pioneer and the differences she made which affect us today. Children will identify similarities and differences between life when she lived and modern-day life.

Geography: This week children will learn about continents. They will investigate where they are on a world map, where their boundaries are, where they lie in relation to each other using compass points. Children will begin their learning about Kenya and using an atlas, discover the countries a person would travel through from England if they wanted to reach Kenya.

Religious Education: This week children will learn about a rite of passage. Children will discuss and share the most important event in their life so far? Children will learn that most religions have significant rites of passage, and these may include some that relate to birth and death.

Personal Development & Wellbeing: This week children will examine the difference between a secret and a surprise. They will read different scenarios and discuss whether each one is an example of a secret or a surprise. Children will learn that a surprise is something that everyone will know about at some point and will be happy and a secret is something which can't be shared and may upset some people.

Art or Design Technology: This week children will use their designs and their carefully selected materials to make their final project. They will create a model in the style of The London Eye, complete with wheel, axle, axle holder and pod. Children will assess each other's designs and consider if they meet the design brief. Children will explain their choice of materials to others and explain why that material was a suitable choice for its purpose.



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Computing: Continuing our programming unit of learning, children will create an animation using ScratchJr. Children will learn how to represent an algorithm to show an object can move. Children will choose a character and create an algorithm to make it move in a realistic way.

Music: This week children will continue their work on "The Friendship song". Having identified the instruments used as well as the beat and the tempo, children will now learn the song, memorising the words as well as clapping at times to the beat.

Physical Education: This week children will learn skills related to throwing and catching. Children will learn skills about overarm and underarm throw, how to position their feet to ensure their throw is accurate. In terms of catching children will learn to spread their fingers and position their hands in a certain way to ensure they can catch a ball when thrown from distance.

Spelling: The sound /zh/ spelt s. Our spellings are television, treasure, usual, division, pleasure, measure, occasion, usually and leisure.

Grammar: This week children will learn about word classes. Children will identify what these are and arrange groups of words into certain classes, giving reasons for their choices.

Year 3

Class Literature: 'Varjak Paw' by S.F Said

English Writing: Based on the picture book 'Journey' by Aaron Becker, the children will begin the week by using direct speech to imagine a conversation between the girl and the guards who greet her at the famous citadel. This is a pivotal moment in the text which will be the catalyst for the climax of the novel. Next week, the children will be creating their own narrative so being aware of these advances in plot will be important to inspire their own story. Furthermore, the children will be re-visiting the skill of adding prepositions of place to enhance the detail in their setting descriptions, focusing on the elaborate illustrations and inferring meaning from the minute details.

English Reading: In reading this week, the children will be participating in a conscience alley. In the role of Varjak, they will debate and delve into the dilemma he faces when posed with the question of staying to protect Elder Paw or facing the wall and venturing into the city as the word of his great ancestor Jalal had speculated. This is a head and heart decision and within this, the children will consider the characters in depth, also working to understand their context and relate this to their own moral compass. To further become immersed into the novel, the children will partake in visualisation activities too.

Maths: For maths this week, the children will be continuing with their second unit of fractions. Firstly, the children will be recalling their awareness of unit fractions before then going on to calculate fractions of amounts. This skill will rely on a secure understanding of division and multiplication as well as understanding that the denominator informs how many parts the whole has been divided into and the numerator shows how many parts there are altogether.

Science: In their first lesson on forces, the children will be working scientifically by setting up their own investigation using a range of everyday items and PE equipment. They will work to answer the question 'when do we use a push and pull force?', on the premiss that there needs to be an unbalanced, unequal force for an object to move and when forces are equal, an object will remain stationary.

History: This week in History, the children will investigate where the Ancient Greeks' fit into time and place. This will begin with a recognition of where Greece is in relation to England before then looking again at a world timeline of Ancient Civilisations. The children will draw parallels between the Greeks and the other civilisations they have studied so far such as Stone Age Britain and Ancient Egypt, as well as recalling the definition of Ancient, BC and AD as they continue to expand upon their awareness of chronology and the past.

Geography: In Geography this week, the children will begin their final topic of coasts. To begin this, they will be looking at the UK coastline and working with an atlas to locate several beaches along the Southern coast of England such as Devon and Cornwall. In doing this, the children will also be learning a host of new vocabulary to describe the beach material and matter found on these coasts, drawing comparisons and contrasts between them too.

Design Technology: This week in DT, the children will be evaluating the pros and cons of importation and exportation. They will learn about seasonal fruits and vegetables in the UK and discuss the benefits and limitations that eating



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seasonally would pose. They will discuss benefits of importation and negative impacts such as the harm to the environment.

Personal Development & Wellbeing: Children will be answering the key question 'what is identity?' this week, celebrating who they are and the groups that they are part of. They will work to create a poem in the style of a Kenning poem, where each of the lines have just two words.

French: Combining their knowledge of numbers and food in French, the children will be looking at a French menu and asking and answering questions about the prices of food in French. In addition, they will continue to practise their pronunciation of these words and phrases by re-calling their knowledge of French phonics, identifying the phonemes and graphemes present in the words.

Music: In music this week, the children will be focusing on the skill of composing. Being given a range of notes on a particular scale, the children will create their own compositions, playing the notes in any order they wish to fit with the accompaniment track. This will require the children to consider tempo as they work to play in a rhythm which compliments the beat of the backing track.

Computing: The children will begin a new unit of computing this week, which will involve looking at computer systems and parts. In their first lesson, they will be noting the differences between input devices which give instructions such as a mouse and keyboard and output devices such as a monitor and noting the reasons for both.

Physical Education: The children have begun two new units in P.E which will be rounders and athletics. Within these lessons, the children will learn the fundamentals of rounders and practise their hand-eye coordination, taking it in turns to bat and bowl the ball. In athletics, the children will warm up with the daily mile run around the playground before practising their running skills.

Spelling: This week's spelling rule will be a range of common exception words such as 'address and business'

Grammar: Grammar focus this week will be prefixes 're-', 'sub-' and 'inter-' in words such as 'reapply'

Year 4

Class Literature: 'Danny Chung does not do Maths' by Maisie Chan and 'Where the Forest Meets the Sea' by Jeannie Baker

English Writing: The children will continue their new unit based on 'Where the Forest Meets the Sea' by Jeannie Baker. At the start of the week, they will focus on different tenses, adapting a paragraph about the forest into different tenses. Following this, they will read a section of Jungle Explorer on saltwater crocodiles and use a dictionary to research definitions for the key vocabulary. They will then look at possessive apostrophes with singular and plural nouns and write labels for what they would take on a trip to the rainforest. At the end of the week, they will use formal voice and topic specific vocabulary to write a voiceover for a section of an animal documentary.

English Reading: The children will continue their new unit on 'Danny Chung does not do Maths' by Maisie Chan. They will start the week by being introduced to a new character 'Nai Nai' who comes to stay with the family. They will generate questions to ask Nai Nai about her life before arriving in Danny's home which will be used in a hot seating activity. Following this, they will consider Danny's feelings about Nai Nai's arrival and any grievances he may have about the situation. They will take part in a conscience alley whereby they offer advice and reassurances to Danny based on these. They will then read about Danny giving Nai Nai a tour of the area and will consider Danny and Nai Nai's differing perspectives on the different locations. At the end of the week, the children will think about the last five chapters and infer Nai Nai and Danny's feelings across these, showing these on an emotion graph.

Maths: The children will continue their unit on 'length and perimeter'. They will start the week by continuing calculating the perimeter of rectilinear shapes as well as using their knowledge of addition and subtraction to calculate missing lengths. Following this, they will explore the difference between regular and irregular polygons and again, use the measurements given to calculate the perimeter.

Science: The children will continue their unit on 'Teeth and Eating'. Having been introduced to the different parts of the digestive system such as the oesophagus and small/large intestine and their location in the body, the children will take part in a practical activity whereby they learn about the function of each of these.

History: The children will complete their end of unit assessment on The Anglo-Saxons, recapping their knowledge on their beliefs, Sutton Hoo, the kingdoms and Alfred the Great.

Geography: The children will continue their new unit on 'Volcanoes and Earthquakes'. Having looked at key vocabulary such as 'epicentre', 'fault line' and 'tectonic plates' and located these on an earthquake cross-section, they will explore how earthquakes are caused and how these different parts are involved.



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Design Technology: The children will begin their new unit on torches. In this lesson, they will explore a range of light sources such as torches, headtorches, lamps and solar lights. They will discuss who would use each, the design features which make them suited for purpose, the materials and parts used and how they work.

Personal Development & Wellbeing: Having looked at protected characteristics in the last lesson, the children will focus on diversity in terms of race and the importance of respecting this protected characteristic.

French: Still with a focus on the mastery conversation questions such as 'Quelle âge-as-tu?', 'Quelle est la date de ton anniversaire?' and 'Tu es comment?', the children will write an 'About me' paragraph, using their knowledge of phoneme/grapheme correspondences to ensure correct spelling.

Music: The children will continue their external keyboard tuition with Mrs Owen. The children will continue to use the notes A, C, D, E, F and G to practise playing 'Twinkle Twinkle Little Star'.

Computing: The children will continue their new unit on HTMLs. In this lesson, the children will look at an HTML code and explore how they can remix some parts of this, changing the text size and content. They will be introduced to the abbreviation CSS (Cascading Style Sheet) and begin to learn the difference between this and HTML.

Physical Education: This term, the children will focus football in their PE lessons. This week, they will develop the skill of changing direction and speed when dribbling, ensuring they accelerate out of the change of direction into space.

Spelling: This week, the children will be focusing on statutory spelling challenge words such as 'history', 'knowledge', 'different' and 'purpose'.

Grammar: This week, the grammar focus will be on conjunctions to express time (such as 'after', 'whilst', 'when', 'once' and 'since') and cause (such as 'because', 'so' and 'as').

Year 5 Class Literature: Class Literature: 'Cosmic Disco' by Grace Nicolls and 'The Paper Bag Prince' by Colin Thompson.

English Writing: Children will begin their new writing unit with the story 'The Paper Bag Prince' by Colin Thompson. Children will begin the week by working through a piece of material that provides evidence for an argument about plastic use in schools. The children will then create a diagram illustrating pros and cons, resulting in a debate between the two. In the middle of the week, the children will be producing a group brainstorm resulting in key vocabulary that will then be used to create a setting description. At the end of the week, the children will be using their newly learnt information to create an opening paragraph to a story based on an image from the class text.

English Reading: The children will begin their reading unit, exploring 'Cosmic Disco' by Grace Nicolls. At the beginning of the week, children will produce writing with a focus on comparing and looking at the contrasting works of Nicolls. In the middle of the week the children will be practising and performing a poem of their own focusing on manor and structure to express meaning. Finally, by the end of the week, children will be working to identify what makes a poem unique and will be able to classify a poem structure.

Maths: Over the course of next week, the children will be continuing their Maths unit on Shape. They will first learn to correctly identify the length of an angle in a selected shape. In the middle of the week, the children will learn about the features and behaviours of regular and irregular polygons. Finally, the children will conclude their knowledge by learning about 3D shapes and how they can be likened to the 2D counterpart.

Science: Children will continue their unit about forces. The key question will be 'What forces are at play when you are using a seesaw?' Children will have the opportunity to plan scientific enquiry using different variables.

History: This week, the children will begin their new unit of learning about Birmingham. With a focus on the main historical landmarks in the centre of Birmingham. The children will be focusing on where the buildings are and why they became famous.

Personal Development & Wellbeing: Over the course of this week, the children will now be focusing on economic wellbeing, this week's key question is 'How do I set a budget for a week?'

French: The children will continue learning by focusing on their understanding of a fictional character. The children will be focusing on the pronunciation of their favourite character from the world of Super-Heroes.

Music: The children will continue their external keyboard tuition with Mrs Owen. The children will be focusing on the Indian melody 'Rama'. The children will be using all previous understanding to help them perform their piece in front of an audience.



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Computing: this term the children will work on creating media digitally using stop motion animation. This week the children will focus on editing picture to provide mood and feeling in an image.

Physical Education: The children will begin with their new PE unit on athletics. The children will be focusing on a range of movement, allowing them to be explosive when moving.

Spelling: This week, children will learn words containing the letter string 'ough' such as plough and brought

Grammar: The grammar focus for this week will be to use adverbs to support the description of a setting or character.

Year 6

As children prepare to sit their end of key stage assessments at the beginning of May, many of the lessons will be replaced with additional revision sessions to ensure children have the opportunity to review previously taught content.

Reading: As part of the ongoing support for your child's SATS Examinations, reading revision will now include all content domains, which will cover vocabulary, summarising, inference, prediction and explanation of vocabulary choices used by the author. At home, you can help your child with their reading revision at home through reading plus (minimum of 40 minutes at a time), reading aloud to your child from a book they enjoy, and access additional links sent via homework to support with comprehension.

Maths: As we work towards SATs in a few weeks, the children will be completing revision packs revising all the content strands taught this year with a focus on time for the first week. The children will be exposed to different types of timetables such as bus, train and school timetables and will complete problem solving questions linked to time. The children will also continue to recap their four operations and apply those skills to both arithmetic and reasoning style SATS questions.

SPaG: As with maths and reading, the children will begin revision packs for their punctuation and grammar recapping all the key content starting with verb tenses. They will recap the past participles for perfect past, present and future tense along with past and present progressive tense. The children will then move on and recap the different word classes and demonstrate their knowledge by answering SATs style SPaG questions.

Additional links for online support are attached to their Easter homework which will provide online support they can access as additional revision between now and their SATs. There are additional workbooks that focus on specific content domains on their Showbie as well that will support their learning. Mark schemes will be uploaded to children who complete the workbooks to then self-assess.