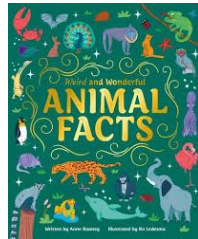
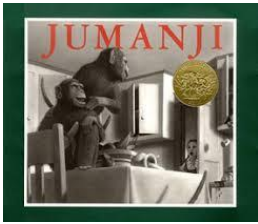


Spring Term 2 – The Animal Kingdom

Key texts:



Writing:

In Year 2 we further embed our knowledge of different text types. This term the pupils will write an animal fact file and a narrative with various animals.

At home, please encourage your child to read various animal fact books and write creative and imaginative stories – this could be changing characters in a story, reading books, or even following an encyclopaedia to retain facts to write down!

Capital letters, finger spaces, and full stops remain a key focus always. We are also looking for the **use of correct tenses in writing** and being able to **proofread effectively to produce quality written work**. Allow your child time to practice cursive handwriting at all times.

Other home learning ideas:

Use the internet to explore more about The Animal Kingdom

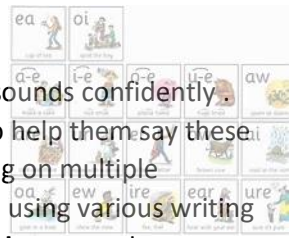
<https://www.whipsnadezoo.org/education/online-resources/key-stage-1>

Home learning project:

The children will be learning about The Animal Kingdom 😊 Can you build a 3D model of a chosen animal using craft materials like paper, clay, or recycled items? How will you make its features? What materials will be best for their legs and tail? Does it have fins? Where does it live? Can you write a fact file about this animal in cursive writing?

Reading:

Most children should know Set 3 sounds confidently. Please work with them at home to help them say these words fluently and practice reading on multiple occasions. The children have been using various writing features such as **expanded noun phrases** and sentences using **but, or, yet** and **so**.



Fred Talk: At school, we use Fred talk to help us to blend. Fred says the sounds before reading the words.



Key reading words to practise: Kingdom, animal, mammals, insects, reptiles, categorise, habitat, carnivore, omnivore, herbivore, vertebrate, invertebrate, nocturnal, extinct, endangered, camouflage, birds, fish, amphibians, food chain, prey, predator

Common exception words: Each year group has key words to learn. Below are the common exception words for Year 2.

Please practise reading and spelling: most, move, Mr, Mrs, old, only, parents, pass, past, path, people, plant, poor

Year 2 Common Exception Words				
after	class	floor	most	pretty
again	climb	gold	move	prove
any	clothes	grass	Mr	should
bath	could	great	Mrs	speak
beautiful	cold	half	old	sugar
because	door	hold	only	sure
behind	even	hour	parents	told
both	every	improve	pass	water
break	everybody	kind	past	whole
busy	eye	last	path	who
child	fast	many	people	wild
children	father	mind	plant	would
Christmas	feed	money	poor	

Maths:

This term the children will be consolidating their understanding of multiplication and grouping. We will now also move onto mass, capacity and temperature. Additionally, the children will also look at fractions. Why not explore the following links to learn more:

Top Marks Game Links

<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/mental-maths-train>

<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/measuring-in->

Remember to go onto our school website for key calendar dates: [Calendar – Avanti Fields School](#)

Remember to log on to your child's Espresso account to access their learning pad and a wealth of learning resources.

Science

In science this term, we are exploring the topic "**Animals, Including Humans.**" The children will learn about the fascinating world of animals and how they connect to us as humans.

We will begin by identifying what animals are and discussing how they grow and change as they mature, including ourselves. We'll explore what all animals need to stay alive, the importance of exercise, and how eating a variety of foods helps keep us healthy.

Later in the term, we will delve into the classification of animals, using their features to group them and discussing unique cases like whales and penguins. The children will create simple food chains, learn about different habitats, and discover how animals adapt to survive in their environments, such as the camel and the penguin.



Geography

In geography this term, we are linking our learning about **animals** to the study of the world around us. The children will explore how animals and their habitats are connected to geography.

We will begin by learning about different habitats around the world, such as deserts, rainforests, and the Arctic. The children will discover how animals are adapted to survive in these unique environments. We'll also explore how climate and geography affect where animals live and thrive.

As part of our lessons, the children will learn about the importance of protecting habitats and the impact of human activity on the animal kingdom. We will also look at maps and globes to identify where various animals live, encouraging the children to think globally about the natural world.



History

In history this term, we are learning about individuals who have made a significant impact on the world, with a focus on **climate change and activism**.

The children will begin by learning about Greta Thunberg—who she is and why she is famous. They will explore key elements of her life and understand her role as a climate activist, raising awareness about the importance of protecting our planet.

We will also study how climate activists, including those closer to home like the young activist featured in a Leicester news story, are working to inspire change. Visuals of issues like deforestation will help the children understand the challenges our planet faces and the importance of taking action.



P.E

In PE this term, we are focusing on developing a range of physical skills through two exciting topics: **Multi-skills: Bat and Ball** and **Animal Olympics**.

During our Multi-skills lessons, the children will practice essential techniques such as throwing, catching, hitting, and controlling a ball using bats. These activities will help improve their hand-eye coordination, teamwork, and confidence in using equipment.

In our Animal Olympics sessions, the children will explore movements inspired by animals, such as jumping like frogs, balancing like flamingos, and sprinting like cheetahs. This will encourage them to develop strength, agility, and speed in a fun and imaginative way.

Art

In Art this term, we are taking inspiration from the work of Katie Vernon to explore the beauty of animals and their unique patterns. The children will develop their creativity and artistic skills through a series of engaging lessons.

We will begin by experimenting with materials and methods to create a variety of patterns inspired by animal prints, such as stripes, spots, and textures. The children will then combine materials to produce textural and visual effects, encouraging them to explore how different techniques can bring their ideas to life.

Building on this, the children will create a vibrant collage inspired by the story of *Jumanji*. They will incorporate textures and patterns such as tiger stripes, monkey fur, and stampede-inspired prints to capture the excitement of the animal kingdom.

Design and Technology

In Design and Technology this term, we will be focusing on three exciting projects that encourage creativity, problem-solving, and practical skills: **Understanding Materials**, **Food and Nutrition**, and **Designing and Making a Board Game**.

For the **Understanding Materials** block, we will link our learning to *Jumanji* and monsoon themes. The children will test materials to determine if they are waterproof, evaluate the design features of boots, and explore how folding and creasing paper can improve its ability to protect from rain. Through this, they will learn how to conduct fair tests, refine designs, and evaluate their outcomes.

In the **Food and Nutrition** block, the children will apply their culinary skills to create something delicious. They will learn about the nutritional value of different foods and evaluate the outcomes of their cooking, fostering an understanding of healthy eating.

Finally, in the **Designing and Making a Board Game** module, the children will evaluate existing board games before designing and creating their own, complete with a pop-up or pull feature. They will work through the full design process, including evaluation, encouraging creativity, teamwork, and attention to detail.

Music

In Music this term, we will be using the exciting *Jumanji* stampede scene as inspiration for our compositions, focusing on creativity and teamwork.

The children will begin by exploring how to create a **graphical score**, using symbols and drawings to represent different sounds and rhythms. This will help them plan and visualize their musical ideas.

Building on this, the children will work in groups to perform an instrumental composition inspired by the *Jumanji* stampede and raging rapids scene. They will use a variety of instruments to represent different animals, such as heavy drumbeats for elephants or fast-paced rhythms for monkeys, bringing the excitement of the movie to life.



Computing

This term we will be focussing on using iPad/Computers to research Africa, what can we find out about Africa? We will also be recognising Safer Internet Day on Tuesday 11th February 2025.

Also, please keep encouraging your child to practise logging in- this could be on a home computer, login into espresso or MyMaths and continue allowing them to explore using the keyboard to practise typing.



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