



Key knowledge

During this topic, children will explore a variety of journeys focusing mainly on space travel using the story of Whatever Next by Jill Murphy. They will learn facts about Space using non-fiction texts. They will learn who Neil Armstrong is and why he is such an important historical figure. Alongside this, the children will be learning the traditional story of the Gingerbread man and exploring the journey he made!

- I know how to get to Space.
- I can talk about who Neil Armstrong is.
- I know what to protect myself in different weathers.

Prime Areas

Communication & Language

The children will begin to answer how and why questions based on facts about Space that they have learnt. The children's attention spans will be improving through circle times and group work and they will be able to concentrate for longer periods of time. The children will be using the topic of Space to extend their vocabulary, exploring the meaning of new words.

Can you tell me 5 new words about Space?

Physical Development

This term in PE we will be using the Get Set for PE scheme – we are looking at gymnastics and moving our bodies in different ways. The children will learn different positions and rolls. The Owls will also be exploring Forest school once again, climbing, balancing and manoeuvring around the trees and logs.

Can you show me the tuck? Can you move high or low?

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

This term the children will be learning about valuing difference. We will be discussing our families and homes and what is similar and different about them. We will also be thinking about what things make us special and how we can be caring towards our friends.

Who is in your family? How are you like your friend? What is special about you?

Key vocabulary

Non-Fiction – a factual text.

Fiction - a made up story.

Similar/ different

Neil Armstrong

Heavier/lighter/full/empty

More than/ fewer than

Subitize- to be able to read an amount without counting

Specific Areas

Reading

Children will listen to and join in with stories with repetitive phrases such as: Whatever Next and The Gingerbread Man. The children will be looking at the difference between fiction and non-fiction books. They will be applying their Phase 2 and 3 Phonics to segment and blend simple words and phrases in books.

What word do we make when we blend these sounds together? What is the difference between fiction and non-fiction?

Writing

A variety of mark making tools such as pens, pencils, paintbrushes and chalks will be available for the children to practise writing words with. The children will use their Phonic knowledge to write short sentences linked to their learning around the class texts.

What is the first/next/last sound in this word? Where could you look to help you write that word?



To infinity and beyond.

Maths

The children will continue to work on numbers 1-10, becoming more confident with subitizing, counting, ordinality and cardinality of numbers. We will explore the composition of numbers up to 5 and begin to compare amounts using the language of more than and fewer than. The children will also explore the language of capacity through practical activities - heavier, lighter, full and empty.

What comes next? How do you know? Why can't it be ***? Can you show me that amount in a different way? What do you notice?

Understanding of the World

As we move from Autumn into Winter, the children will look at the changes in weather and explore ice and what makes it melt quicker or slower. The children will be looking at the clothes that they would need to wear in different weathers and why. Children will use a range of technology in our Space Control Hub, including keyboards, phones and laptops. The children will also learn about Neil Armstrong and his travels in space.

How are Autumn and Winter different? What is the weather like today? What will you wear when you go outside?

Expressive Arts & Design

The children will be designing and making bridges to help the Gingerbread Man cross the river. The children will enjoy designing their own gingerbread men. They will also be using various modelling materials to make rockets and planets. In our environment, the children will have access to a variety of design and technology, art, music, dance and role play activities for them to express themselves through.

How will you know that your bridge is strong enough? What shapes and colours will you use?