

Literacy

In Literacy we will look at Aboriginal myths and how they explain an aspect of creation e.g. 'Bunda's Dreaming,' by Jay Mathews and 'Rainbow Bird,' by Eric Maddern and Adrienne Kennaway. In studying these stories, we will identify the structure of a myth as well as other literacy devices such as strong verbs, interesting adjectives, similes and metaphors. The children will write their own myths and edit and improve them, before presenting and illustrating them to be shared.

Following our focus on Aboriginal Myths, we will move onto looking at our shared text 'Fox' by Margaret Wild and Ron Brooks. By looking at the opening illustration we will generate language to describe how it feels to step inside this book. We will turn our vocabulary into a poem inspired by the scene, selecting appropriate vocabulary and considering how choices can change or enhance meaning. As we continue through the book, we will learn more about the relationship between 'Dog' and 'Magpie.' The children will write in role advising Magpie on what to do, or as Magpie asking to be left alone.

When a new character, 'Fox'. Is introduced to the relationship we will set up a conscience alley representing Dog and Magpie to listen to and consider why in the case of Magpie she should stay or go and, what in the case of dog he should do or say to encourage or dissuade Magpie from going. The children will write 'Dear John...' letters appealing to Magpie to stay.

Geography

The children will consider the question 'Is Australia a continent or a country?' developing their understanding of the distinction between continents and countries. They will learn that the equator divides the Earth into the Northern and Southern hemispheres, and recognise that Australia's position on Earth means that the sun shines on Australia (daytime) when it is night-time in the UK.

The children will study the human and physical geography of Australia.

Computing

The children will apply their knowledge and understanding of networks, to appreciate the internet as a network of networks which need to be kept secure. They will learn that the World Wide Web is part of the internet, and will be given opportunities to explore the World Wide Web for themselves in order to learn about who owns content and what they can access, add, and create. Finally, they will evaluate online content to decide how honest, accurate, or reliable it is, and understand the consequences of false information.

Mathematics

This half-term, the children will be studying the **place value** of numbers to 10,000, representing, partitioning, comparing and ordering them. They will then learn to round numbers to the nearest 10, 100 or 1000. In moving on to **addition and subtraction**, the children will add and subtract pairs of 4-digit numbers where more than one exchange is required. The children will be challenged to calculate the costs and change due for their family to visit a number of tourist attractions in Australia.

Religious Education

The children will look at what it means to be made in the image and likeness of God, as seen through the story of Genesis, and how we are called to respect all similarities and differences. The children will consider how we are called to eradicate injustice through the work of CAFOD. They will also examine issues of reverence and respect in the Jewish faith and the Torah.

Awesome Australia



Enrichment

The children will be challenged to construct some of the famous Australian landmarks. They will enjoy exploring traditional aboriginal artefacts such as the didgeridoo and the boomerang. They will also have fun planning a trip to Australia, deciding what they would do and visit given their budget.

Physical Education

In basketball, the children will be encouraged to dribble accurately without committing a foul, change direction and avoid defenders by using both hands. The children will learn the defensive stance, ensuring they make their bodies as big as possible to try and defend a ball from an attacker. They'll be able to steal the ball, block the ball and put pressure on opposition players. The children will practise the set shot and be able to execute it from different distances and angles. Within game situations, they'll show growing consistency of passing and dribbling under pressure.

PSHE/RHE

Using our Focus text 'Fox' we will explore overcoming difficulties/barriers, friendship, loyalty, taking risks and betrayal/trust. We will consider how Magpie feels at different/key points of the story. What could she do? What choice does she make? What would you have felt/done in her position? Why? The children will use the qualities displayed by/associated with 'Dog' and 'Magpie' to review our whole-class charter/friendship system.

Science

The children will investigate that most living things live in habitats to which they are well suited. They will explore and describe how the different habitats in Australia (e.g. desert, bush, Great Barrier Reef) provide for the basic needs of the animals and plants that live there. We will also consider how animals have adapted and evolved over time to survive the harsh living conditions.

The children will consider grouping the animals in different ways e.g. where they live, what they eat, features. They will then create a classification grid.

The children will then look at how habitats change over time e.g. *weather*, and the effect that this has on wildlife. They will find out how human behaviours impact both positively and negatively on different habitats e.g. *Australian fires, Tourists taking the reef, the positive effects of nature reserves.*

Design and technology

The children will explore different mechanisms that use levers, linkages and pneumatics. They will apply their knowledge to design and create a moving dreamtime scene.

Music

The main focus of this topic is **The Music of Australia**. The children will learn about traditional Australian instruments such as the didgeridoo. They will listen to, and sing, traditional Australian folk songs

The children will learn to play simple tuned and untuned percussion accompaniments to an Australian sea shanty. They will compose a simple sea shanty as a class, using appropriate lyrics, melody and accompaniment. The children will play ukulele chords to accompany the song '**Kookaburra.**' They will know some famous Australian pop artists, and listen to some Australian pop music.

The children will continue to learn to play the ukulele, using the programme **Ukulele Magic**.

Arts and Design

The children will look at aboriginal art and, in particular, the technique of dot painting. They will create their own dot paintings.

During this theme, the children will also study the illustrations by Ron Brooks in their focus text 'Fox' and consider the materials and methods used to add light and shadow to his artwork. The children will combine oil pastels and chalk to emulate his style.