

### Literacy

Our 'Out of Africa' topic centres around 'The Leopard's Drum' by Jessica Souhami. This is a traditional tale from West Africa in which a small tortoise outwits a boastful leopard who is very proud of his magnificent djembe drum.

The children will create a story map which tells the main sequence of events in the tale. They will then use their story maps as an aid to support an oral re-telling of 'The Leopard's Drum,' using shadow puppets. Following this, the children will be challenged to retell the story in writing. Finally, they will have the opportunity to innovate the story, explaining how a different animal got one of its features (e.g. 'How the Leopard got its Spots').

In developing their non-narrative writing, the children will make their own African drums before writing a set of instructions explaining how to make an African drum. The children will also create information fact-files for different animals found in the African jungle.

### Geography

The children will learn about Ghana, the country of origin of this West African tale. They will look in detail at the Ashanti region, comparing its human and physical geography to that of our local area. They will also conduct a weather study to compare weather patterns in the UK with those in Ghana - a location closer to the equator.

### History

The children will also read 'Anna Hibiscus' Song' (by Atinuke and Lauren Tobia). This is the story of a little girl who lives in 'Amazing Africa.' The children will find out about Anna's family tree and her daily life. They children will be challenged to develop a sense of their own past by building a photographic timeline of events relating to their own family. We will develop an awareness of the past, using common words and phrases relating to the passing of time.

### Design Technology

The children will design, make and evaluate a Ghanaian-patterned fabric tile to contribute to a whole-class cloak for Nyame (the Sky God in their focus text). They will work with felt, scissors and fabric glue.

### Mathematics

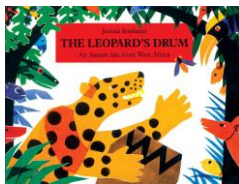
In mathematics, we will continue to develop our addition and subtraction skills and begin to explore shape. We will learn to recognize, sort and name 3D shapes and 2D shapes. The children will then create patterns with these shapes.

We will develop our place value knowledge by moving onto place value within 20. The children will learn to count forwards and backwards and to write numbers to 20 in numerals and words. We will be exploring tens and ones and will be comparing and ordering groups of objects and numbers.

### Religious Education

During our 'Catholic Social Teaching' unit, we will be looking at the act of stewardship. The children will be thinking about how they can look after God's creation. During the season of Advent, the children will look at getting ready for the birth of Jesus through the eyes of Mary and Joseph. They will consider how Mary and Joseph responded to God.

## Out of Africa



### Enrichment

The children will take part in an African-drumming workshop. Our expert African visitor provides an authentic African musical experience as well as telling traditional African tales.

During this half-term, the children will also enjoy a whole-school trip to the pantomime. Year 1 will look at how this is based on an English traditional tale.

### PSHE/RHE

In RHE this half-term, we will be learning that we are created individually by God. We will learn that we are unique, with individual gifts, talents and skills. Girls and boys have been created by God to be both similar and different - these differences are physical, emotional and spiritual and together make up the richness of the human family. We will learn that our bodies are good and that we need to look after them!

### Science

The children will find out about the animals common to Africa and compare these to animals found in the UK. They will learn to group animals by talking about similarities and differences in their features.

### Computing

The children will use Paint software to design their tile for Nyame's new cloak. We will also learn to recognise common uses of information technology beyond school.

### Art and Design

The children will build on their learning from the previous half-term by continuing to focus on the use of using colour, pattern, line, shape and space in art and design techniques. The children will look at the Ghanaian patterns used by designers making traditional Kente cloths. Inspired by this, they will design a simple pattern to paint onto their Djembe drums and an eye-catching new cloak for Nyame, the sky God in their focus text. They will compare the patterns in Kente cloths with the work of Mary Quant. The children will look at the work of a range of artists, craft makers and designers, describing the differences and similarities between different practices and disciplines, and making links to their own work.

### Music

In our specialist music lessons, we will be learning about djembe drumming from Western Africa. The children will know what a Djembe drum looks and sounds like – this will take place in class, and as part of an inspirational visit from Noah Messamo. The children will learn to play a Djembe drum, understanding the need to tilt the drum, the different parts of the drum skin and using different parts of the hand. We will learn to play a variety of simple rhythmic phrases, based on food patterns.

### Physical Education

In gymnastics the children will be practising basic shapes including arch, dish, straight, pike, straddle, tuck and star. The forward roll, backward roll, log roll and teddy bear roll will also be practised. Different methods of travel will be explored across mats and apparatus, including jumping, rolling, hopping pushing and pulling.

During their indoor athletics sessions, the children will begin to combine more than one skill at a time. This will allow them to run and jump over small hurdles, change direction at speed, and jump for height as well as distance.