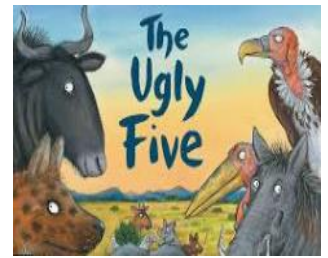


**KS1 Summer 1**  
**'Tell us a story' half-term**  
**Julia Donaldson**



**Our topic**

For our Story Festival half term, we will be studying some wonderful books written by Julia Donaldson! Over the half term we will be reading *The Smeds and the Smoos*, *The Ugly Five* and *The Baddies*. We will also be studying the following in each of our foundation subjects...

**Spring 1 Coverage**

|                  |  |
|------------------|--|
| <b>Science</b>   | As we move into the summer months we will be looking at plants and how they grow. We will be using a range of scientific skills to plan and carry out investigations, make predictions and compare results.  |
| <b>Geography</b> | This half term, we will be studying our local environment and finding out about where we live and the area around us. We will take a walk around the village of Thorpe Hesley and find out about local landmarks. We will also be looking at the seasons and how weather changes throughout the year.  |
| <b>Art</b>       | In Art, we will be focusing on 'sculpture and form.' We will be using clay to re-create animals from the Julia Donaldson texts we have read and use tools to create texture and patterns. We will also work on joining pieces of clay together by using slip.  |
| <b>Computing</b> | In Computing, we will be recapping our knowledge of e-safety and staying safe when using the internet. We will then be moving on to our coding units where we will be practicing simple inputs.  |
| <b>RE</b>        | This half term, we will be reading bible stories about Moses.  |
| <b>PE</b>        | In PE, we will be focusing on athletics and preparing for sports day. We will be learning about relay racing and how to run at speed, using certain techniques to help us. We will focus on working on as a team and how to help and encourage each other in sporting situations.  |
| <b>PSHE</b>      | This half term we will be learning how to keep ourselves safe. This includes learning about who 'safe' people and places are, online safety and stranger danger. We will also learn about medicines which keep us healthy and items which may be deemed 'unsafe' if misused  |
| <b>Music</b>     | We will be continuing our Music lessons with the wonderful Mr Grainger this half term. We will be looking at the songs based on friendship including the famous track 'That's what friends are for' by Dionne Warwick and 'You give a little love' from the film <i>Bugsy Malone</i> . We will learn about singing and playing instruments together and performing in front of others. |

**Reading**

This half term we will be reading a range of fiction texts written by Julia Donaldson as part of our 'Tell us a story' topic. We will read and study *The Smeds and the Smoos* which is based on *Romeo and Juliet* and how everybody can be friends no matter their differences. *The Ugly Five* teaches us to believe in ourselves and how to love ourselves and celebrate all of our qualities. *The Baddies* uses humor and fun to teach us how to use manners and how to be kind to one another.

We are continuing with our whole class reading rewards each half term for children who read at least 3 times per week. We will be sending reading books and home-school diaries home daily in your child's book bag to encourage regular reading at home. Your child will have the opportunity to change their reading books regularly in class but please note that it is their responsibility to do so if they have finished with a book.

**Don't forget that we now offer our library service on Tuesdays and Thursdays after school down in the Infant building.**

## Times Tables Rockstars

Your child should now have their login for Times Tables Rockstars. Remember to encourage them to practise their times tables with a focus on their 2s, 5s and 10s. We will be setting plenty of challenges on TT Rockstars and might even go head to head against other year groups for the chance to win special prizes in school! Also, look out for our top rockstars on our school newsletter each week. Your child might be mentioned on there! If you have any issues with your child's TT Rockstar login, please let your class teacher know as soon as possible.

## Homework

Children will receive maths homework on a fortnightly basis. Each piece of homework will directly link to the learning they have done in class and will be tailored to meet the needs of your child. Please encourage them to work on this independently at home with minimal support, if needed.

We expect maths homework to be handed in by the date written in your child's book. If it is handed in late, your child may be expected to complete it during their break time in school.

## Optional Creative Homework

To add to your child's learning experiences, we would like them to create something at home linked to our new topic, 'Story Festival'. This could be in the form of a written task, a piece of art work, a 3D model or an IT based creation such as a PowerPoint, Word document or video.

**In each class, there will be a prize for the most creative and impressive homework!**

**Below are a few ideas for inspiration:**

- Make a 3D model of an animal/creature from one of our stories
- Write your own story using poetry
- Write a character description on one of the characters from our stories
- Read a range of Julia Donaldson books with your family
- Research and create a fact file on Julia Donaldson
- Have a cosy night in and watch the stories on BBC I Player
- Draw a piece of artwork in the style of the illustrator Axel Scheffler
- Design and make character puppets/masks and create your own show

