



# KS1 Autumn 1 Little Explorers



## Our topic

This half term, we will become little explorers learning about creatures of all shapes and sizes. We will be getting a visit from the wonderful Sarah Lamb from the Sheffield and Rotherham Wildlife Trust who will be showing us how to locate critters in their natural habitats, how to do den building and how different food chains work.

## Objectives we will cover this half term are...

<b>Science</b>	In Science this half term, we will be recapping and deepening our knowledge on the four seasons before learning about different species of animals. We will be looking at the classification of animals i.e. mammals, amphibians, reptiles, birds and fish as well as what they eat, where they live and how the food chain works.
<b>Geography</b>	In Geography, we will be looking at different weather types and comparing weather we experience in the UK to weather experienced around the world. We will also be learning about the hot and cold regions of the world and how the equator affects temperatures in different countries.
<b>Art</b>	In Art this half term, we will be studying sculpture and form alongside painting and colour. We will start the half term by experimenting with clay to strengthen our sculpting skills. Then, we will move on to look at how secondary colours are made using primary colours. We will be taking inspiration from the fantastic artist Ruby Keller to paint our own piece of art work.
<b>Computing</b>	In Computing this half term, we will be learning about IT around us. With an initial focus on IT in the home, the children will explore how IT benefits society in places such as shops, libraries, and hospitals. Whilst discussing the responsible use of technology, and how to make smart choices when using it.
<b>RE</b>	In RE this half term, we will be focusing on the topic 'Who Am I?'. We will be talking about why we are all special in our own right and exploring our self-belonging. We will be using religious stories to link with our own personal experiences.
<b>PE</b>	In PE, we will be refining our gymnastics skills including balancing, rolling, jumping and sequencing. Once we have mastered these skills, we will be testing our gymnastic abilities using our school apparatus.
<b>PSHE</b>	In PSHE this half term, we will be exploring what a caring school looks like and how we can be good friends to one another. We will be using drama and discussion in lots of our lessons to help us imagine some of the scenarios we might need to face in school.
<b>Music</b>	From body percussion to disco music, this term develops children's understanding of pulse and rhythm. The term begins with songs and activities to get children performing together rhythmically. The children will perform actions and movements to a steady pulse and play simple musical passing games. They will learn songs such as 'March To The Beat' to explore the difference between pulse and rhythm, and investigate different ways to play rhythms, varying instrumental timbre and dynamics.

## Reading

This term we will be reading 'Bog Baby' by Jeanne Willis.

*The Bog Baby is a magical story by Jeanne Willis and Gwen Millward.*

*When two small sisters go fishing to the magic pond, they find something much better than a frog or a newt. They find a bog baby. Small and blue with wings like a dragon, the girls decide to make him their secret.*

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 weekly in line with their guided reading sessions.

**Don't forget about our library service that is on offer down in the Infant building.**

## Times Tables Rockstars

Your child will be getting a 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.

**This is applicable for Year 2 from September 24 and Year Ones from January 25.**

## Homework

Children will receive maths homework on a fortnightly basis on our new home learning platform **Doodle Learning**. 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.

## 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, 'Little Explorers'. 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.

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

- Plant some wildflower seeds in your garden to attract wildlife
- Make a bug hotel
- Make a bird box/bird feeder and fill it with seeds
- Go on a natural walk to find signs of Autumn (conkers, leaves, acorns)
- Create a fact file about British wildlife
- Get snuggly and watch a nature documentary
- Build a natural den in your garden/local woodland
- Take photographs of local wildlife in your area

