

## Year 1 Topic Web – Spring 2 - 2021

### Paws, Claws and Whiskers

	What we will be covering in class	Supporting your child's learning at home.
Engage	We will begin our topic by learning all about the Kalahari Desert. We will then read the book Meerkat Mail, before learning about different habitats and the vocabulary associated with them.	Please help to support your child to reach Year 1 expectations by helping them to complete their weekly reading, Maths and spelling homework.
Develop	<p>As we continue to explore animals and their habitats in Science, we will be looking at habitats around the world and how different animals are suited to these. We will be looking closely at the adjectives that can be used to describe different settings and characters.</p> <p>We will be immersing ourselves further into the Meerkat Mail text, writing postcards and internalising and performing the text.</p> <p>Furthermore, the children will innovate their own version of the story, changing the characters and setting using their own ideas and vocabulary. We will then edit, publish and perform our own stories.</p>	<p>Encourage your child to read regularly at home with an adult, recording this in their home school diaries so that we can keep track of their reading progress and reward them for their efforts in class.</p> <p>You can support your child's learning at home by making a scrapbook all about your pet, or a pet belonging to someone you know.</p> <p>Find out about the different pets belonging to your family and friends. Record the results as a block graph or pictograph and highlight which type of pet is the most popular.</p>
Innovate	Children will become animal explorers this week! They will be going on an animal hunt around the school in search of the African Big Five.	Find out about unusual pets using non-fiction books and the internet. Download a photograph of the most interesting pet and write its name. What does it eat? How should it be cared for?
Express	To finish our topic, the children will plan, write and publish their own non-chronological reports on an African animal of their choice. They will research the animals' habitat, diet, appearance and facts before writing their own fact files.	If your child does complete any of these activities, or has an idea of their own, please send their work in so that we can share it in class.

Maths	<p>Children will continue to work with numbers up to 50 to start the half term. They will be able to count forwards and backwards up to 50 using a number line. They will be learning about grouping in 10s and their understanding of 1 ten being equal to 10 ones will be reinforced. Children will continue to see that groups of tens and ones in each number to support their understanding of place value. In the second part of the half term, the children will understand the language of length such as long, longer, short, shorter, tall and taller. They will recognise that this language will change depending on what type of length they are describing and comparing. Children will understand that height is a type of length. Finally, children will use non-standard units for measuring such as cubes and hands. They will know that standard units (cms) is required when measuring length and height.</p>	
English	<p>Over the course of this half term, we will read, plan and write our own versions of a wide range of genres. This will include writing, editing and re-drafting a narrative story based on the book 'Meerkat Mail'. The children will learn the story and internalise the text, before creating a story map and writing their own version of the story by changing the character and the settings. Within this, we will also focus on writing setting descriptions, using adjectives and writing a postcard. Later in the topic, the children will write their own non-chronological reports about an African animal of their choice. Throughout these genres, we will also be focusing on securing the written skills needed to ensure children are working at the expected standard or beyond at the end of Year 1. This will include securing the consistent use of Phase 5 phonics in their writing to improve coherence and punctuation and encouraging children to use commas in a list, full stops and question marks. Throughout the term, children are also undertaking daily phonics and grammar lessons where they will be revising taught spelling patterns and rules.</p>	
Science	<p>In Science the children will spend time exploring animals and their habitats. We will study different habitats around the world and investigate micro-habitats that can be found in our local area. The children will then explore how different animals are suited to their habitats.</p> <p>It will also be National Science Week in March where the children will be researching a British Scientist. We will be focusing on Jane Goodall and her work with chimpanzees.</p>	
Art	<p>For Art this half term we will be looking at animal patterns and how they help an animal to stay camouflaged in their environment. We will sketch patterns of animal fur, skin, shells and feathers. Drawing animals' environments using either paints or pencil will be completed. Animals themselves will be drawn.</p>	<p>PSHE</p> <p>This topic's PHSE is all about money. The children will be learning about where money comes from and what we need it for. They will also develop an understanding of how to keep track of what they spend. Additionally, the children will investigate the differences between wants and needs.</p>
Geography	<p>The children will focus on developing their map reading skills and drawing their own map of our school grounds. They will develop an understanding of aerial views and investigate aerial images of our school. They will also be going on a spring walk and comparing aspects of the four seasons.</p>	<p>PE</p> <p>The children will continue to develop fundamental skills, with a focus on movement and linking movements together to fit a theme. Also, the children will develop their coordination through ball skills and will work on improving their balance. Please ensure your child is dressed for PE every Wednesday.</p>