



Year 4 Home Learning – Spring Term 1

This term our English topic is 'The Iron Man' by Ted Hughes. For our home learning, we would like you to think about a visit from an alien being.

Speaking

Imagine you have just seen the spacecraft land and you phone your Mum or Dad to tell them what has happened. Role play your phone conversation.

You are a newspaper reporter sent to find out about the alien landing. Prepare a short report and practise presenting it to a TV audience.

What do you think should happen to the alien? Should it be captured? Should it be allowed to live freely on Earth? Prepare 3 different arguments explaining what you would like to happen and why.

Reading

Aim to read with an adult for 15 minutes every day.

When you are reading stories, try to identify and talk about how the characters are feeling. Does the writer leave any clues?

When reading stories aloud to an adult, try to use the punctuation and powerful verbs (e.g. whispered, screeched) to add expression. Can you use an angry voice, an excited voice or a scared voice?

Mini research project: In 1947 a farmer found wreckage in his field near Roswell, USA. It was thought to be the wreckage of an alien spacecraft. Find out what happened next.

Writing

Write a detailed description of the alien. Include expanded noun phrases and similes for extra detail. Try to vary the way you start your sentences by using fronted adverbials.

Write a playscript of the first conversation you have with the alien. You could role play this first with a member of your family. Remember to add stage directions to show what you are both doing and how you are speaking.

Draw a diagram of the alien's spacecraft. Add detailed descriptions and/or explanations of different features of the craft.

Create a storyboard or comic strip telling the story of the alien landing.

How can we get the alien back to its home? Prepare a detailed plan. You could add diagrams or pictures.

Maths

This half term we are working on...

Multiplication and Division – Here we are to complete work on the 11 and 12 times tables, then multiplying 3 numbers and factor pairs. We will be using written methods to multiply 2 digit and 3 digit numbers by a 1 digit number. We will also be learning to divide 2 digit and 3 digit numbers by a 1 digit numbers, including remainders.

Area – What is area? We will be counting square to find the area of shapes and comparing the areas of given shapes.

Fractions – We will be learning about unit and non-unit fractions and how fractions can be represented as part of a number, a shape or on a number line. We will be exploring fractions greater than 1, counting in fractions, adding and subtracting fractions, and finding fractions of sets and quantities. We will also start to learn about equivalent fractions, Some of the fraction work will continue in to next half term.

Our **Geography** topic this half term is Britain and beyond.

To cover this topic at home, you should start by identifying the countries that make up the United Kingdom, Great Britain and the British Isles. Pupils will need to know the slight but important differences in these groupings. We will also learn to name and locate some of the main islands that surround the UK. This is a great topic for developing atlas skills, the intention is for pupils to be able to use atlases for location purposes, but also to develop awareness of certain countries in geographical relation to other significant countries. Pupils will use maps to plan a journey from Uttoxeter to another English location. It is also our intention to be able to name and locate the capital cities of the countries that we study. Pupils will need to study the flags of key countries in this topic. We will also begin to learn the names of the countries which make up the continent of Europe, along with their capital cities.



[UK Facts | Facts about UK | United Kingdom Facts | Geography \(kids-world-travel-guide.com\)](#)

[Mapping the world - BBC Bitesize](#) An introductory look at globes and maps.



As **Scientists** we will be learning about moving and growing. We will begin by identifying life processes and move onto a greater understanding of bones and skeletons, muscles and exercise.

[What is the function of our skeleton?](#) [How do muscles work?](#) What are our bones and muscles called? [How can we investigate the strength of bones?](#)

[The Skeleton Dance - Bing video](#) Have some fun learning this song, then see if you can find all the scientific names for the bones you are singing about.

As **Artists and Designers** we will be developing drawing techniques, using a range of materials while learning about the Italian artist Leonardo Da Vinci. We will also develop our sculpture techniques within a study of the Swiss sculptor Alberto Giacometti.



[Alberto Giacometti Facts for Kids \(kiddle.co\)](http://kiddle.co)

See what you can learn about this sculptor and have a look at some of his work.

In RE we will be exploring Buddhism.



There is a lot about Buddhism right here on BBC

[What is Buddhism? - BBC Bitesize](https://www.bbc.com/1/learningenglish/b1/learningenglish/vocabulary/what-is-buddhism)

When you have done some research, you could create a mind map all about Buddhism. Think about these key questions: Who was Siddhatta Gotama? What do Buddhist believe? Where do Buddhists worship?