

**Year 3 Curriculum Overview: Spring 1**

**Spring 1 Topic: Animals including Humans**

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| **Subject** | **Skills Taught** | **How can you help?** |
| English | In English, we will be reading “The Great Kapok Tree” by Lynne Cherry and using this to inspire our writing. We will continue to focus on key grammatical features such as the use of apostrophes to show possession, rules for plurals and using suffixes and prefixes. We will continue to work on using paragraphs throughout extended pieces of writing and using inverted commas to accurately punctuate a dialogue. In Guided Reading, we will be reading “Fantastic Mr Fox” by Roald Dahl. | You could read some books together that focus on animals or have an animal as a main character. We love to ‘magpie’ words and phrases to use in our writing, so you could discuss any that your child thinks are effective in the texts that they read at home. The children have an opportunity to access our Accelerated Reader program at school and you can also assist them with accessing this at home too. |
| Maths | In Maths, we will be continuing our topic of ‘Multiplication and Division’ and moving on to written methods. At the end of Year 4, the children will undertake a statutory timetables test and we are doing daily times tables practice to help prepare them for this.  After ‘Multiplication and Division’ we will spend some time focussing on ‘Money’ and then move on to ‘Statistics’ before the half term break. | In preparation for the times tables test at the end of Year 4, it would be very useful and beneficial for you to work with your child at home and build their confidence by practising their timetables. Each week a different times table focus is set in their homework books and they should be trying to recall the multiplication and division facts. To support our ‘Money’ topic you could ask your child to assist you with counting out payment when in a shop or checking the amount of change you receive. |
| Science | Our Science topic this term is ‘Animals including Humans’. We will begin by focusing on the human body and learning about muscles, bones and keeping healthy. As our learning begin to shift towards animals, we will learn about the difference in their diets, habitats and bodies. | There are lots of fun songs on YouTube which can help children learn the names of the different bones in their bodies. You could help them research an animal they are interested in and compare this animal to another. |
| Geography | In Geography, we will be looking at different animals around the world and how they are adapted to living in different environments. | Discuss different places around the world with your child and talk about what the environment is like there. Can they predict the sorts of animals that could survive in different places? |
| Computing | We will be using a safe search engine to research different animals and create fact files. | Show your child how to use search engines or apps in a safe way. |
| Art and Design & Technology | We will be creating animals sculptures using clay and looking at different illustrations used within the texts we are studying. | Create some animal print pictures with your child or help them follow a YouTube drawing tutorial to create an illustration of an animal of their choice. |
| Music | We will be comparing different music and discussing the beat, rhythm and instruments used. | Encourage your child to listen to a range of different music genres and discuss what they can hear. |
| Personal, Social & Health Education | We will continue to focus on our three school values; Ready, Respectful and Safe. As we start the new calendar year, the children will have the opportunity to set themselves goals and targets and discuss how they may achieve these. | Encourage your child to set goals within your home and discuss how they could achieve theses. For example, their goal may be to become more independent and they could achieve this by learning how to tie their shoe laces themselves. |
| PE | In games, we will be playing hockey and learning the rules and techniques. We will practice gymnastics in our skills based sessions. | Watch some hockey games on television or some replays of the gymnastic events from the Olympics. |