




During this term, our topic theme is:  
**The Stone Age – What was life like for early man?**  
 Below are the areas that we are covering this  
 half term.



Curriculum Area	Areas to be taught in school	Possible activities to be done at home
<b>English</b>	<p>During the first half term, we are going to be focussing on the basic skills relating to sentence structure and punctuation. We will be deepening our knowledge and understanding of grammar and the functions of the words in sentences. This unit will support children to form grammatically accurate sentences and punctuate them correctly. This will also support children when they edit and improve their own writing. At the end of the term, we will showcase our knowledge and skills through writing a non-fiction text. We will continue with whole class reading sessions.</p>	<p>Encourage your child to read for pleasure at home and to share what they have read with the class. Encourage your child to do some writing about something of interest to them. Find a picture and get your child to write sentences. Can they start off basic and gradually get more complicated? Check with your child that their sentences are grammatically accurate.</p>
<b>Maths</b>	<p>In maths this half term, children will focus on place value. This will incorporate varied fluency around ones, tens, hundreds and thousands. Children will practise writing numbers to 1000 in words and numerals. They will aim to find 10, 100 and 1000 more or less within these numbers and will use this information to be able to add and subtract 2-digit numbers using the column method. Children will also be covering statistics. They will interpret and answer questions using tables, bar charts and pictograms.</p>	<p>By the end of Year 4, children are expected to know all of the times tables and related division facts. The sooner the children know these, the easier and more enjoyable maths will become. In Year 3 we focus on 3, 4, and 8 but if your child learns them all then it will be of great benefit to them. They can access TT Rockstars at home on their tablets, computers or phones.</p> 
<b>History</b> <b>'What was life like for early man?'</b>	<p>The children will use their imaginations to enter the Stone Age. This exciting history topic will teach the children how early humans had to survive and communicate with one another. The children will also learn about the settlement of Skara Brae and how it was discovered as well as the different types of abode that early humans used as shelter. We will examine how these early people were hunter-gatherers and how this enabled survival and human evolution.</p>	<p>Make your own imitation cave drawing – you can use any material you have available. What story would you tell with your cave drawing? If you were an early human, what might you want people to remember about you?</p> <p>Additionally, children could create a research project about early man and the Stone Age. This could include any of the eras within Stone Age (Palaeolithic Age, Mesolithic Age and Neolithic Age). Children can present this in any way they wish. Some ideas may be a fact file, mind map, poster, slideshow or a video presentation.</p> <p>BBC Bitesize has multiple pages offering information regarding the Stone Age.</p>
<b>Physical Education</b>	<p>This half term the children will focus on the skills required to play tag-rugby. This includes throwing and catching, attacking and defending. They will also be looking at mindfulness and activities to help us work better as a class. Please ensure your child comes to school wearing their full PE kit. This half term, <b>Thursday</b> is our PE day. See separate communication about what children can wear. Jewellery should not be worn for school as per the uniform policy, except for</p>	<p>Why not set up and attempt an agility course to help avoid being tagged. This will support in attacking with tag-rugby. Ask your children about any of the rules of tag-rugby as the half term progresses.</p>

	stud earrings, which must be removed (or plasters sent to cover them) prior to the lesson starting.	
<b>Art - Sculpture</b>	During this half term, we will be delivering a set of lessons where the children will be learning all about sculpture. This topic will be inspired by Ben Nicholson and provides an accessible and flexible way to help children understand how the colour of a shape can change its visual weight and how the size of a shape can change the feel of the composition.	Do you have any platercine, modelling clay or Play Doh at home to model with? If not – you could make some using items you may already have in your cupboard: <a href="https://www.bbcgoodfood.com/howto/guide/playdough-recipe">https://www.bbcgoodfood.com/howto/guide/playdough-recipe</a>
<b>Science Chemistry - Rocks</b>	Science we will be learning about rocks and soils. The children will learn what the different types of rocks are. They will experience classifying rocks based on their properties. The children will learn how fossils are formed and find out about the famous life of a very significant person named Mary Anning. Finally, the children will look at how soil is formed and will investigate permeable soil to use for growing their own vegetables.	Go on a rock hunt with your child. This can be in your local area or further afield if you have the opportunity. This could be a beach, a cliffside, Roseberry Topping or somewhere in nature. Can they describe the properties of these rocks, make comparisons between different rocks and make educated assumptions of the rock type. If you find any particularly interesting rocks/fossils, please encourage children to bring these in.
<b>Religious Education</b>	The children will be learning about the religion of Sikhism this half term. We will be looking into what Sikhism is, its influential people, places of worship, festivals and much more to really understand the religion itself.	Can children continue further research at home the religion and learn any additional information which they could share to the class. Producing a brief fact file or information poster would be a great project to consider to present their new information.
<b>Computing</b>	This half term, children will be focusing on the strand of information technology through the app 'Pages'. The children will be revisiting some prior knowledge of the app before learning a range of key skills in order to use the app effectively.	We encourage children to research a topic of their own interest and create an informative text on the Pages app, either in school or at home if children can access the app. This can also be produced on paper as preparation for our computing learning in school.
<b>French</b>	This half term, children will be beginning their French learning journey by initially focusing on key phonemes and authentic pronunciation. Following this, children will move on to building their skills and knowledge around being able to introduce themselves, say how they feel and have a wider appreciation for the country/countries where the French language is spoken.	Can children demonstrate any of the particular words or phrases they have learnt throughout the half term, using authentic pronunciation. If children practise at home, they are encouraged to share this in school.
<b>Music</b>	The children will begin learning how to play the ukulele this half term where they will also learn songs accompanied by singing. Our music lessons in class will focus on playing tuned instruments in time to music and improvising their own tunes.	Listen to a range of different types of music with your child and see what they prefer. They may discover something new!
<b>PSHE</b>	During this half term we shall be looking at working as a team. We shall be discussing how following school rules can make us a great team and why it is important to be kind. We shall also be thinking about who our special people are and how we can show our special people we care.	At home you could encourage your child to be safe and follow rules to keep them safe. You could discuss why there needs to be rules / laws in the community to make it a safe place for everyone and relate this to teamwork.



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During this term, our topic theme is:  
**What is the geography of the United Kingdom?**  
 Below are the areas that we are covering this  
 half term:



Curriculum Area	Areas to be taught in school	Possible activities to be done at home
<b>English</b>	This half term, we will be reading a fantastic, fun, fictional story called 'Pugs of the Frozen North' by Philip Reeve and illustrated by Sarah McIntyre. We will be producing two pieces of writing focused on this text. This will include a non-chronological report and an advert in the style of a poster. Additionally, we will be building upon our SPaG related skills which we began focusing on last half term.	Encourage your child to read for pleasure at home and to share what they have read with the class. They may also like to create their own non-chronological report about pugs! This could be a showcase of the skills they have practised in school regarding a different topic.
<b>Maths</b>	In maths this half term, children will be focusing on addition and subtraction. We will be focusing on a variety of different skills and techniques which will allow us to develop our confidence in this area. Additionally, we will be using concrete resources to initially support our learning. We will then move on to more pictorial and abstract versions to develop our understanding.  Alongside this, we will be focusing on our fact fluency regarding addition and subtraction up to 20. This will be a skill we will be practising every day and is a crucial part of our maths in Year 3.	Across this year, Year 3 children will be focusing on our fact fluency with consistent checks. It is very important that children work on these types of questions as frequently as possible, both in school and outside of school via homework or additional practise. Please encourage children to practise their fact fluency when possible.
<b>Geography 'What is the geography of the United Kingdom?'</b>	The children will be learning about the Geography of the UK, including learning the names and locations of counties and cities of the United Kingdom, geographical regions and their human and physical characteristics. We will also be able to name and locate some of the rivers and seas of the UK and be able to explain where Darlington is on a map and how Darlington has changed over an extended period of time.	Children could use Google to conduct effective research on the geography of Darlington and produce a PowerPoint presentation or Fact Sheet to share this information with the rest of the class.
<b>Physical Education</b>	This half term, the children will focus on the skills required to play gymnastics and basketball. They will be looking at a range of skills and actions required to perform these two sports accurately. Please ensure your child comes to school wearing their full PE kit. This half term, <b>Thursday</b> is our PE day. See separate communication about what children can wear. Jewellery should not be worn for school as per the uniform policy, except for stud earrings, which must be removed (or plasters sent to cover them) prior to the lesson starting.	Children may want to watch some professional gameplay of Olympic level gymnasts and basketball players in preparation for our upcoming topics.
<b>DT</b>	Children will think of a small gift they are going to give someone for Christmas and design a gift box that they think that person would like. They will need to carefully consider what	The children could explore packaging at home when it is ready to be recycled, take it apart, and make it again.

	the recipient likes/dislikes or what the gift inside will be. The children will plan, design, evaluate and make their own products.	
<b>Science (Biology) Animals Including Humans</b>	In Science (Biology), we will be learning about Animals including Humans. We will be finding out the answers to the following questions: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. How do plants and animals get the nutrients they need?</li> <li>2. What diets do plants and animals have (omnivore, herbivore, carnivore)?</li> <li>3. Why do we have a skeleton and what is its function?</li> <li>4. What are our bones called?</li> <li>5. Do people with long legs jump the furthest?</li> <li>6. Who was Marie Curie?</li> </ol>	Children could keep a food diary of their different meals and use their learning to decide whether they are getting the nutrients that they need. They could check food labels to see the contents of the foods that they are eating and consider if their diet focuses on being balanced.
<b>Religious Education</b>	The children will be learning about how Christians celebrate Advent. They will learn about how Christian churches prepare for Christmas and also about Christmas celebrations in other countries such as Sweden and Russia.	Encourage your child to find out about Christianity by visiting the library, using the internet or asking any neighbours who may practise this religion. Share your own views honestly and discuss the importance of respecting the beliefs of others.
<b>Computing</b>	This half term, children will continue to focus on the strand of information technology through the app 'Pages'. The children will be revisiting some prior knowledge of the app before learning a range of key skills in order to use the app effectively.	If children have access to an Apple device, can they produce something within the Pages app focused on a topic of their choosing?
<b>French</b>	Children will build on their French learning by moving onto the area of animals. The children do this using a range of methods including songs, games and engaging in conversations.	Encourage your child to have conversations in French embedding their knowledge from last half term, as well as practising new vocabulary learnt.
<b>Music</b>	The children will be continuing to learn how to play the ukulele this half term where they will also learn songs accompanied by singing. Our music lessons in class will focus on playing tuned instruments in time to music and improvising their own tunes.	Children could research their favourite genre of music. They could listen to a range of different types and see what they prefer. They may discover something new!
<b>PSHE</b>	The children will learn about 'Digital Wellbeing' and how they can stay safe and be responsible online or when using technology. They will think about how they can get along with other people and to appreciate everyone around them.	Talk to your child about being safe with technology. Talk to your child about their friends at school and how they can be a good friend.