



# Spring Term: Africa

Termly overview: We will spend this term looking at the continent of Africa, and we will be comparing and contrasting this to the UK in the continent of Europe.

## As Times Table Rockstars we will:

The children in year 2 are expected to know all multiplication and division facts for their 2, 3, 5 and 10 times tables. The children should be able to recall them at speed and this will be practised in class 3x per week.

## As writers we will:

We will be reading 'Meerkat Mail' by Emily Gravett. We will use this text to write fiction and non-fiction pieces including a non-chronological report on Meerkats. We will ensure that we are covering Year Two appropriate skills such as using commas in a list and writing using a range of sentence types. We will also be reading 'Bog Baby' by Jeanne Willis using the book to enhance our use of description and write a retell of the story.

## As mathematicians we will cover:

We will be spending time learning about multiplication and division, fractions, money, time and measure. We will continue to practise the skills for each topic then apply them further using reasoning to challenge ourselves. We will also look at worded questions and how to interpret them to successfully solve them.



## As scientists we will:

We will be looking at the topic of 'Animals including Humans and 'Living things and their Habitats'. We will look at the basic needs of animals and link this to food chains. We will learn to identify and name a variety of plants and animals in their habitats. Another focus will be understanding the importance of exercise and diet for humans.



## As geographers we will:

We will look at the location of Africa and compare it to the location of the UK. We will use geographical language such as climate to compare the two. Also, we will use atlases to accurately locate the Equator.



## As historians we will:

We will consider the impact that Africa has had on the wider world. We will link our history learning with art as we will explore how African art has impacted on others.



## As artists/ designers we will:

We will look at the artist Martin Bullinya and his impact.

## In PSHE we will:

We will be looking at fairness and relationships with family and friends.

## In RE we will:

We will look at what it means to be a Muslim in Britain today. We will learn about the religious festivals too.

## Author of the Term:

The author of the term is Lynley Dodd. The children will be reading books such as 'Hairy Maclary' and 'Slinky Malinki'. Why not explore her other books- your child can bring them in to enjoy with the whole class. Please label them clearly with your child's name. Thank you.



## As musicians we will:

Music is taught on a Tuesday afternoon by Mr. Hall who gives the children the opportunity to explore many instruments such as the guitar and learn new songs.



## In computing we will:

We will be looking at coding and the importance of online safety.

## Homework Including Optional Homework Project Ideas

Homework Type	Given out	Handed in
Weekly spellings	Friday	Following Thursday
Maths Book	Friday	Following Thursday
Reading	Continuous (3 times per week at least)	
SPaG Book with hand-writing focus	Friday	Following Thursday

Homework **will change** as we approach the Year Two SATs in May with SATs style questions being sent home for the children to practise. This is to allow the children to be prepared and so that they can showcase their learning feeling relaxed and confident of what to expect. Again, a huge **thank you** to you all for the amazing support you give to the children—it really does help them to make fantastic progress!

Although topic homework is not expected, you may want to complete creative pieces of homework to share with the class! This could include (but is not limited to):

- A piece of Africa art in the style of Martin Bulinya—our artist of the term. He has some fantastic, colourful artwork to admire!
- Research facts about three animals found in Africa. What diet do they eat? What do they get hunted by? This could be in the style of a fact file, or a presentation to the class.
- Find three similarities and three differences between life in Africa, and life in the UK in Europe. These could be drawn or simple sentences to compare and contrast the two.
- A piece of artwork to compare and contrast the climate in Africa and the UK. This could be in the form of a collage or drawn.

*“Developing the Individual”*

## PE

The year 2 children will have indoor PE on Tuesday taught by Dan. On Tuesday, please ensure that your child has a full PE kit in school including suitable footwear. Until February half term, we will have an extra session on a Thursday afternoon where a cricket specialist comes in and teaches the children. Children should take earrings out **before** school on these days.

## Educational Visits

This term, we will be visiting Knowsley Safari Park linked to our topic of Africa as it is a fantastic place for the children to explore animals that would be found in Africa.

Details of this trip will follow with all the information that you will need.

*Please Note: These trips are subject to change depending on price and availability.*

*We will also be visiting Miltion Parish Church for our annual Easter service.*

## Other Useful Information

In year 2, the expectation is that children read **at least** three times per week. You must sign and date your child’s diary and ensure it is in school each day. In year 2, books will be changed Monday, Wednesday and Friday. Reading diaries will be checked every Monday morning. In addition to this expectation, the children have the opportunity to achieve the **‘Reading Rocket’**. **In order to develop good reading habits, we are asking that children read little and often throughout the week rather than on a number of occasions during the same day.** The children must read on **five separate days** to be considered for the reading rocket prize. Those who achieve the reading rocket will receive a letter home, a small prize and be entered into a prize draw for a larger prize. Library books will continue with Mrs Shenton on alternate Fridays as will the 25 reads in Year Two.