

Year 4 Summer Term 1

Expedition Narrative

In April 2023, the Year 4 children are beginning their first Summer Term Expedition, focusing on the guided question:

Ancient Egypt

“What does evidence tell us about this ancient civilisation?”

Our Learning:

Through our learning of history (Case study 1), the children will develop their understanding of what terms like ‘ancient’ and ‘civilisation’ mean before locating Ancient Egypt in place and time, establishing their chronological knowledge where this ancient civilisation fits in the context of world history. They will identify key features of the civilisation including the hierarchical society as well as the significance of the Nile. The children will look at evidence to develop their understanding of the pyramids, hieroglyphics and artefacts found in tombs and will use these as part of historical enquiries to examine different interpretations of what happened in the past. The children will then learn about the Ancient Egyptians’ beliefs about life and death by examining primary sources, including the Book of the Dead. Using knowledge gathered over the course of the case study, they will then research other ancient civilisations to discover what they have in common.

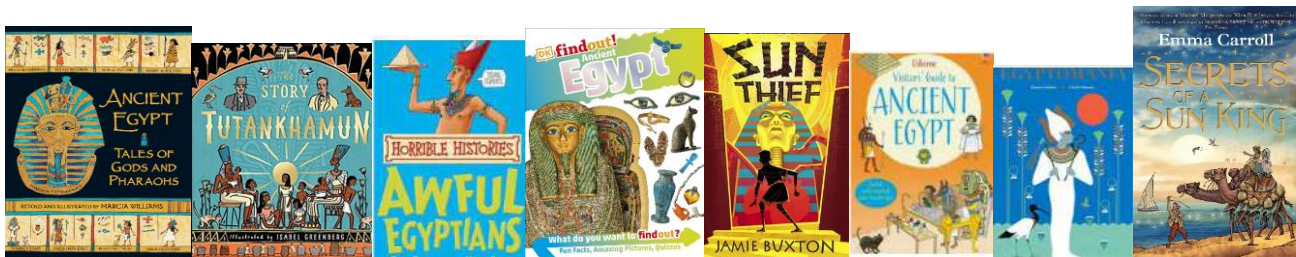
Engage

The children will begin their expedition by creating Ancient Egyptian-inspired profile portraits to transform themselves into pharaohs. We will follow our own lines of enquiry by forming questions we want to answer as we explore a wide range of texts to begin to develop our knowledge of this civilisation.

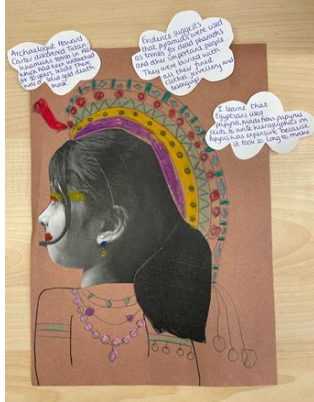
Final Product and Family Learning

At the end of our expedition, the children will revisit their Ancient Egyptian-inspired portraits and add key knowledge that they will learn throughout the expedition. This will focus on the facts they obtain and will be summarised to demonstrate their understanding of Ancient Egypt. These will then be shared with families via an online sway page.

Key Texts



Staff Model Product



Other subjects taught this term:

Writing

We will begin with a diary entry, linking to characters who lived during the Ancient Egyptian civilisation based upon Secrets of a Sun King, as well as exploring how to create a personal tone in their writing. Our second unit, will be a flashback narrative which is when a character gets transported back in time, also focusing on the Ancient Egyptian period.



Reading

We will start by looking at a resistant text, 'The Snow Walker's Son' by Catherine Fisher, which is one of our 'five plagues' of reading. When authors write resistant texts, they mean for the material to be difficult. Often with these texts, gaps in meaning are part of the meaning making. Afterwards, we will link our text to our historical learning in our expedition and look at a non-fiction extract about Ancient Egypt. This will focus on the content of information and how this is presented on the page. Throughout both units, we will revisit and develop our summarising, inference and prediction skills as well as developing our knowledge of word meanings by using dictionaries and learning about etymology.

Maths

As we start the summer term, we will learn about decimals, recognising tenths and hundredths first before showing them on a place value grid and on a number line. We used our understanding to then divide 1 and 2-digit numbers by 10 and 100. After that, we are learning how to write, compare, order and round decimals. After we conclude our learning on decimals, we will be learning to convert, compare and estimate monetary amounts, before studying time where we will be converting between the 12 and 24-hour clock.

Science

We will start our science learning by using just our hearing sense to recognise how sounds get fainter as the distance from the sound increases. We will continue to deepen our learning by exploring patterns between volume and sound and experience the change in vibrations through our practical science lessons.



PSHE

Learning starts focussing on the emotional aspects of relationships and friendships. With this in mind, children explore jealousy and loss/bereavement. They identify the emotions associated with these relationship changes, the possible reasons for the change and strategies for coping with the change. The children learn that change is natural in relationships and they will experience (or may have already experienced) some of these changes. Children revisit skills of negotiation particularly to help manage a change in a relationship. They also learn that sometimes it is better if relationships end, especially if they are causing negative feelings or they are unsafe.

Spanish

Over the course of the summer term, we will be learning to share our hobbies, discussing modes of transportation, what we would need for a holiday when packing a bag and talking about weather.



Music

We will develop our musical knowledge of genres of music so that we can confidently recognise a range of them. We will express our opinions about the different pieces before singing songs with two or more parts, performing them in an ensemble.