

Our Learning: Year 5 Spring 2 2024 - African Countries



At school

Options for home learning

English	Our core text for Literacy will be Shaun Tan's 'The Lost Thing'. We will be writing non-chronological for how to be a good citizen of a utopian society. These instructions will incorporate features including colons before a list, sub-headings and multi-clause sentences to contrast. We will also be using the text to inspire writing short stories about our own 'lost-thing'.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Read other books themed around isolation, alienation and inclusion. Examples of these include 'The Unforgotten Coat', 'Tall Story' and 'Boy in the Tower'. •Read other children's books by the author Shaun Tan.
Maths	This half term we will begin to look at fractions, building on our year 4 work including finding equivalent fractions, simplifying fractions and comparing fractions. Times tables and division facts are really important for these processes, so we will be practising these regularly to keep up to speed.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Practise your times tables and division facts on TTRS. •Make an equivalent fraction chain—start with a fraction of your choice and see how many equivalents you can find in 3 minutes!
Science	This half term, we will continue with our earth and space topic. Building on the knowledge we gained from the 'WonderDome' visit, we will explain how day and night occurs due to the rotation of planet Earth, and observe and explain the phases of the moon.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Construct a simple shadow clock or sundial to see how the Sun travels. • Research the heliocentric model of the Solar System and create a poster to demonstrate your understanding.
Geography	This half term, we will continue with our African Countries topic. In terms of physical geography, we will be focusing on natural landmarks and biomes across the African continent, before moving on to study the human geography of different African countries.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How do Africa's biomes affect the vegetation and population in different regions? •Draw a map of the continent of Africa and fill it with your own facts.
Other	Our French topic is still <i>Dans Ma Ville</i> (in my town). We will be creating our own imaginary towns, filled with different places that we can describe in French! In art, we will finish our focus on Rufus Ogundele and begin to study traditional African masks, ready to create our own in clay.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •When out and about, point out locations using French vocabulary. •Look at masks from other cultures and compare them to traditional African masks.

Key Dates:

No swimming or dance. PE Thursday—please wear PE kit.
 4th March: Virtual African artefacts workshop
 6th March: 5A class assembly
 15th March: 5N and 5A to Horniman Museum (am only); Comic Relief
 19th (pm)/ 20th March (am): Open Classroom
 22nd March: 5B to Horniman Museum (am only)
 Thursday 28th March: Term ends 3.25pm

Maths homework

Stay in the Green Zone on [Doodle Maths](#).

Practise your times tables and division facts on [TTRS](#)—aim for at least three sessions a week.

Reading and spelling homework

Daily independent reading (at least 15 minutes), or reading with an adult.

Complete a minimum of three entries per week in your Reading Record—hand in Fridays.

Complete the online homework on [Google Classroom](#)—due weekly on Fridays.