

Our Learning: Year 5 Spring 2 2025 - African Countries



At school

Options for home learning

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| English | Our core text for English will be Shaun Tan's 'The Lost Thing'. We will be designing our very own lost thing and writing non-chronological instructions for their care. These instructions will incorporate ambitious grammatical features including colons before a list, sub-headings, relative clauses and multi-clause sentences to contrast. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Read other books themed around isolation, alienation and inclusion. E.g. 'The Unforgotten Coat', 'Tall Story' and 'Boy in the Tower'. • Read and compare other children's books by Shaun Tan. |
| Maths | This half term we will begin to look at fractions. The work will build on the children's mathematical understanding from year 4, and will include finding equivalent fractions, simplifying fractions and comparing and ordering fractions. Times tables and division facts are really important for these processes so we will be practising these regularly! | <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 occur 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 (sun-centred) model of the Solar System and create an explanatory poster. |
| Geography | This half term, we will continue with our African Countries topic. In physical geography, we will focus on natural landmarks and biomes across the African continent. We will then study the human geography of different African countries, with a focus on farming. | <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 <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 complete our work inspired by Rufus Ogundele and begin to study traditional African masks, ready to create our own examples 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:

PE Thursday—please wear PE kit. Swimming is now finished for year 5.

Open classroom: 5th and 6th March

6th March: World Book Day

Class assemblies: 5A 5th March; 5F 19th March

Horniman workshops (pm): 5HB 18th March; 5F

21st March; 5A 24th March

Comic relief: 21st March

End of term: 3.25pm, Friday 4th April

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 Thursdays.

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