



Year 4

Guide To
Spring Term 1 2018





Our curriculum at Summerlea is creative and designed to forge links between the different areas of learning. Each topic we study is led by a driving question to get us thinking. We have listed the **main** curriculum areas that will be addressed by each question and have given a brief outline of what we will be learning.

This half term our driving question will be...

“What’s under the layers?”

Geography: We kick-start the spring term by immersing the children in a rainforest environment. Throughout the term, children will discover where the rainforests are in the world and explore the layers of it. This will be co-ordinated by exploring atlases and world maps to supplement our learning.

English: We will be exploring an array of rainforest inspired narratives. This will enable the children to imitate and/or innovate their very own rainforest narrative. Also, we will be exploring deforestation whereby children will write a persuasive letter voicing their opinion on the endangered physical landscape.

Science: In Science, we will be exploring how living things can be grouped, using classification keys to sort. We will also be looking at the principal of food chains, identifying producers, predators and prey. This will lead us to discover how environments change and the dangers they can pose to living things.

DT: We will use research and develop design criteria to create a shelter building fit for purpose in the rainforest. We will apply understanding of how to strengthen, stiffen and reinforce more complex structures.

Maths:

Our main objectives are to:

Number: Multiplication and Division

- Recall multiplication and division facts for multiplication tables up to 12×12 .
- Use place value, known and derived facts to multiply and divide mentally, including: multiplying by 0 and 1; dividing by 1; multiplying together 3 numbers.
- Recognise and use factor pairs and commutativity in mental calculations
- Multiply two-digit and three-digit numbers by a one-digit number using formal written layout.
- Solve problems involving multiplying and adding, including using the distributive law to multiply two digit numbers by 1 digit, integer scaling problems and harder correspondence problems such as n objects are connected to m objects.

Measurement: Area

- Find the area of rectilinear shapes by counting squares.

Number: Fractions and Decimals

- Recognise and show, using diagrams, families of common equivalent fractions
- Count up and down in hundredths; recognise that hundredths arise when dividing an object by a 100 and dividing tenths by 10.
- Solve problems involving increasingly harder fractions to calculate quantities, and fractions to divide quantities, including non-unit fractions where the answer is a whole number
- Add and subtract fractions with the same denominator
- Recognise and write decimal equivalents of any number of tenths or hundredths
- Recognise and write decimal equivalents to $\frac{1}{4}$; $\frac{1}{2}$; $\frac{3}{4}$
- Find the effect of dividing a one- or two-digit number by 10 and 100, identifying the value of the digits in the answer as ones, tenths and hundredths
- Round decimals with 1 decimal place to the nearest whole number
- Compare numbers with the same number of decimal places up to 2 decimal places
- Solve simple measure and money problems involving fractions and decimals to 2 decimal places.

Year 4 news and information

The team:

Mrs Refoy (Beech Class Teacher)

Miss Axton (Sycamore Class Teacher)

Mr Burnett (Juniper Class Teacher)

Mrs Kirkwood and Mrs King (Learning Support Assistants)

Exciting days and events:

Tuesdays – Forest School

PE & Library Days:

Outdoor PE: Monday - Sycamore & Juniper; Wednesday - Beech

Indoor PE: Monday – Beech; Wednesday – Sycamore; Thursday - Juniper

Library: Wednesday – Juniper; Thursday – Sycamore & Beech

NB: We ask that your child has their PE kit in school every day as there may be unforeseen timetable changes or additional activities planned. Please ensure this comes straight back into school if they take it home after a sports club.

Coats/snacks/drinks and equipment:

Please ensure your child has appropriate clothing for cold/wet weather as we will often still go out when it is raining and remember to ensure they have a separate jumper for outdoor PE. We ask that every child has a water bottle in school and that break time snacks are put in the class box as soon as they come in in the morning.

Please don't hesitate to get in touch with your child's Class Teacher if you have any concerns or queries; our doors are always open.

Homework



Homework is non-statutory and, as previously, there is no requirement to complete a set amount each week.

Our minimum expectation is that all children should read regularly, ideally every day. Spelling and mental/oral maths practise is also important and homework for these two areas will also be set regularly.

Reading

At Summerlea we are positively promoting reading for enjoyment. We want all children to love reading and be able to talk about books they have enjoyed or learned from! Every half-term our school-wide theme will change and we are encouraging children to choose and share texts that fit this in the hope they will be exposed to different types of stories, styles and authors.

*This half-term's theme is... **Space***

Reading and understanding a full range of text-types and authors will not only bring pleasure but can also develop comprehension, spelling and writing skills. Encourage your child to share and talk about texts with you, visit your local library, hear them read, read to them and enjoy!



Spellings

Spellings will be set every two weeks and sent home in a small book.

There will be 7 words from our pattern we are learning at school and also 3 individual words that the children choose from a set list of errors in their own work.

We have included a spelling strategy sheet to give you a few ideas on how to practise these at home.



Maths

We encourage the practising of key mental maths skills and would like children to practise their number bonds, doubling and halving and times tables.

More practice will lead to better retention!

Your child has their own Mental Maths Passport. In your child's passport is a list of times tables as well as our 'Around The World' objective list. Please spend time practising times tables and your child's Around The World target at home. You can tick them if you think your child has achieved a times table or Around The World target. They will be regularly checked and assessed in class.

6 things to try before half term...

In addition, and in the same vein as the National Trust's '50 things to do before you are 11 ¾' we provide a list of suggested activities, linked to the year group topic, your child might like to have a go at during the course of a half term. The suggestions are simply that; ideas to get you and your child thinking about fun and creative ways into exploring learning themes.

Can you create a rainforest inspired set of Top Trumps?

Can you make your own rainforest collage? (Use a variety of materials to bring your design to life)

Create a fascinating fact file about an animal in the rainforest.

Create your own musical instrument inspired by the sounds of the rainforest.

Can you create a recipe that is inspired by the rainforest? (You could make something inspired by the culture of South America)

Take on the role of an author, song writer, actor or comic designer to create your own exciting material based on The Great Kapok Tree!

***If you think of any more topic related tasks to do feel free!
We'd love to hear about, look at and learn from them.***

Preview/review

At the beginning of each half term we would also like to invite your child to reflect on previous learning and look forward to new learning.

Last half term your big question was
“What can you hear?”

What did you learn?

This half term our big question is
“What’s under the layers?”

What do you already know?