



# Great Fire of London

Year 2 - Spring 1



## English

**Goldilocks retell**  
**Goldilocks adaptation**  
**Great Fire of London diaries**

Our focus this half term is on fairytales. The children will begin the unit by trying to match some props and characters to different fairytales. We will also discuss fairytale language and the power of 3.

We will then focus on the story of Goldilocks and the three bears. The children will write a setting description and then use the Talk 4 Writing where they will retell the original story in the Imitate stage. Innovate will provide the children the opportunity to retell the story with a castle as the setting and a chance to make some changes followed by writing their own fairytale using everything they have learned in the Invent stage.

After we will be beginning our topic on The Great Fire of London.

We will begin by writing questions to find out about the fire and then imagining we are caught in the events of 1666. We will write our own diary entry, describing what we could see and how we felt based on a cat's perspective.

## Science

This half term we will begin by learning about humans. We will be focusing on how to keep healthy. The children will take part in different forms of exercise to see whether it increases their heart rate. We will then look at food where they will be sorting food into different categories. They will be looking at what foods are healthy and how to make healthy choices.

We then move onto hygiene and why personal hygiene is important. We recap germs and how some germs can cause illness. This then leads onto teeth and good oral hygiene.

### At home

Have a look at food in supermarkets. Discuss what the different colours on the front of packets mean.

Can you make a diary of different exercises you do as a family over a weekend?

## History

We will be learning about the Great Fire of London this half term. We will focus on how the fire started, what happened next as well as how and why the fire spread so far. We will be having a particular focus on the changes made to buildings and London as a result of the fire.

We have got a fantastic opportunity at the end of the unit where the children will take part in a Great Fire of London workshop.

### At home

How about a trip to London where you can visit the Monument which commemorates the Great Fire of London and the rebuilding of the city? You could also visit the Museum of London which regularly has exhibitions on the topic. If you like Minecraft, then the Museum of London have produced some Minecraft maps of the city of London in 1666 which are downloadable from their website.

Closer to home, why not write your own diary entry like Samuel Pepys. Record what you do each day at school or with your friends. You will need to keep it safe just like Mr Pepys!



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## DT/ Art

In DT we will then be looking at the joining and construction techniques used in creating buildings. We will begin by creating a little cardboard castle and then design and make our own 17th century house to recreate our own London street from 1666.

We will also be creating our own Great Fire of London tea light holder and some collage work.

### At home

Can you create your own building using some of the joining techniques we have learned to create your own street at home?

## RE

Our unit this half term is called What is God like for Christians? The children will explore how most Christians see and experience God as a guide and guardian. The children will consider how friends and followers of God speak about God.

Next half term we will be visiting the Shah Jahan Mosque so we will also recap some of the work we have done around Islam.

### At home

Visit the Shah Jahan Mosque website for a virtual tour of the oldest mosque in the UK.



## PSHE and Values

We will be starting the term with Life Base, learning about our feelings and interesting facts about the body. We will be making our own targets for the year ahead and discussing the importance of honesty. In February we will start to learn about keeping safe using NSPCC Pants resources including knowing about 'Safer Strangers' when we are out and about. We will also continue to learn about how a growth mindset can support our learning.



## Maths



This half term we will start by learning about money. We will begin by recapping what the different coins and notes are in British money. The children will count money and find ways of making the same amount using a number of combinations of pounds and pence. They will also learn about change and working out how much change someone would get.

We will then move onto multiplication and division. We will learn to multiply by drawing arrays and to divide by sharing and grouping and seeing this as the inverse of multiplication.

In our Spring maths workshops we will be exploring adding 1 and 2 digit numbers using pictorial representations.

### At home

You could set up a role play shop for your child to buy items from it and to practice giving change for amounts.

You could take your child to the supermarket and use cash!

Provide the children with the opportunity to hold real money.

Recap the 2, 5 and 10 times tables to ensure your child is fluent.



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## Music

We will be exploring instruments and using these to consolidate our knowledge of rhythm, pulse and pitch. We will use a range of tuned and untuned instruments.

We will play instrumental games and begin to compose our own simple music to share with the class.

## Phonics, Spelling and Handwriting

This half term the children will begin the main Little Wandle spelling programme. Little Wandle spelling builds on children's knowledge of the alphabetic code and teaches them how to spell with confidence. The programme provides a seamless link from the core Little Wandle programme to teaching spelling in Year 2.

### Week 1 and 2

We will begin by exploring how the /n/ sound is spelled kn and gn, and how the /r/ sound is spelled wr in some words (usually at the beginning). The main focus of this unit is on the spellings (kn, gn and wr) at the beginning of words. Our prickly spellings are **once** and **two**.

### Week 3 and 4

The next two weeks will see us explore dropping the e before adding a suffix that begins with a vowel, focusing on -ed, -ing, -er in week 3 and -est and -y in week 4. Our prickly spellings are **any** and **many**.

### Week 5 and 6

This will see us exploring how the /j/ sound can be spelled j, g, ge or dge in different positions in some words. The spelling patterns ge and dge are used at the ends of words and not at the beginning. The graphemes j and g are never used to spell /j/ at the ends of words. Review previous spellings.

## Computing

This half term we will be learning to create our own blog using Purple Mash. We will add information and comments to a class blog. Don't forget you can access 2Blog at home through Purple Mash so you can add your own entries outside of lessons and to practice your typing skills.

## PE

In PE this term we will be learning hockey skills. The children will learn to hold a hockey stick, pass, dribble and shoot before playing small games. We will continue to work on our Drumba units. Watch this space for your chance to have a go and watch.

The children will be working to learn different gymnastic skills in our 'Buildings' unit.