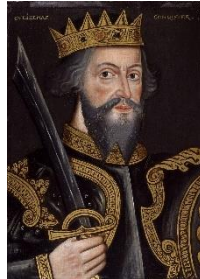


# Towers, Tunnels and Turrets

Summer Term

2023-24

Reception and Year 1



Climbing the battlements or tunnelling in the ground, there's a whole world of adventure and fun to be found!

This term, we will visit a real castle to explore the towers, battlements and maybe a secret tunnel or two! We'll learn all about the different parts of a castle and describe how they have changed over time. Using a wide range of materials, we'll build models of castles and test the strength of our structures. We'll learn the stories of Rapunzel and The Three Billy Goats Gruff and create models inspired by them. Maps and photographs will help us learn about the tallest buildings and the longest tunnels in the world. We'll find out about the amazing Victorian engineer, Isambard Kingdom Brunel.

## Reading and Read, Write, Inc (RWI) phonics



Reception have learnt to read and write their Set 1 and 2 sounds, which includes their special friends, so will now consolidate their Set 2 sounds. Reception children are now confident at 'Fred talk' (segmenting and blending) to read and spell words with 3 and 4 sounds using 'Fred in their head'.



Year 1 children are revising their set 2 and 3 sounds and are beginning to read and spell multi-syllabic words, clapping the syllables. You have a blue folder to practice these sounds and the corresponding words. Children in Year 1 will now be learning to 'Fred in their head' a wider range of words to enable them to 'speedy read' words. This will enable them to read more fluently and improve their comprehension to gain a greater understanding of characters, plots and settings. We will develop our comprehension skills by answering questions based on evidence from the text and we will make inferences on the basis of what has happened so far. They will begin receiving some alien words to practice in preparation for their statutory phonics screening check assessment.

## Literacy, communication and language.

In literacy lessons, children will compose a sentence orally before writing it. They will sequence sentences to form short narratives and re-read what they have written to check that it makes sense. They will use their finger spaces, full stops and spell words using their sounds learnt in phonics. Year 1 will also be turning words from singular to plural by adding -s and -es, adding suffixes to verbs without changing the root word, add the suffixes -ing, -ed, -er, and -est to root words and use the prefix un- to change the meaning of verbs and adjectives.

We teach literacy through rich texts that stimulate purposeful and meaningful writing opportunities. This term we will be focusing on writing; re-telling's, inventing our own stories, character and setting descriptions. We will also write a non-chronological report and create our own fact files linked to the theme of castles and knights. We will enjoy reading and rehearsing a range of rhymes, poems and sing nursery songs that help us to remember things. Children will participate in high-quality discussions with the teacher during story times and enjoy discussing characters, plots and settings in these sessions. We will discuss a range of stories, poems and non-fiction texts.

## Key texts;

Summer 1	Summer 2
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Rapunzel The three billy goats gruff Puss in boots The emperor's new clothes There's a dragon in my book Sleeping Beauty Cinderella The princess and the pea Robin hood	The Last Wolf Edinburgh castle King Jack and the dragon Don't wake the Dragon The knight who wouldn't fight Knights and castles Look inside a castle The castle the king built
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Songs and rhymes</b>  Oh the grand ole duke of York  Who will fight the dragon  The castle on the hill  The king of the castle  Brave knight</p>	

## Maths

At Umberleigh, children focus on the maths mastery approach. This means that children are challenged to 'dive deeper' with their learning to further explain, reason and justify their answers. It's important for your child to get to grips with maths in a very practical, hands-on way. Working individually, as a class and in groups, they will be investigating, counting, playing number games and using everyday objects to help them solve problems and do simple calculations. Now that they are familiar with a range of language used in maths, they will be encouraged to talk about their methods for solving problems and presenting their results. Children will be given opportunities to deepen their learning by using their logic and reasoning skills in a range of real-life contexts and problems.



Reception	Year 1
<b>Summer 1</b> To 20 and beyond How many now? Manipulate, compose and decompose	<b>Summer 1</b> Mass and Volume Multiplication and Division Fractions
<b>Summer 2</b> Sharing and grouping Visualise, build and map Make connections	<b>Summer 2</b> Geometry, position and Direction Place value within 100 Money Time

## Personal, Social, Health and Economic (PSHE)



### Spring 1: Relationships

In this puzzle piece children will understand how they belong to a family. They will consider ways they can make friends and be a good friend. They will think about appropriate and inappropriate ways to greet people and know suitable physical contact to greet their friends. They learn who can help them in their school and within their community. They will begin to recognise their own qualities as person and a friend and how to be a good friend to others. We will talk about the special relationships we have and why we appreciate someone who is special to me.

### Spring 2: Changing me

In this Puzzle piece, we will learn about the life cycles of animals and humans. We will think about how we have changed and some things about us that have stayed the same. We will think back to when we were a baby and consider how our body has changed over time. We will identify the parts of the body that make boys different to girls and can use the correct names for these. We will know how to respect which parts of our body are private. We will consider how we are always learning new things, understand that every time we learn something new we change a little bit. We will discuss how we cope with changes and the changes that have happened in our life so far.

## Physical education (PE)

This term, we will enjoy swimming, rounders, tennis and athletics.

When attending swimming lessons, children will learn to enjoy being in water and become more confident. They learn how to keep afloat, move in the water, meet challenges and breathe/blow bubbles into the water. At first, they use swimming aids and support – in time, some children will manage without these. In all swimming activities, children have to keep afloat and propel themselves through water. Learning to swim enables them to take part in a range of water based-activities.



In rounders we will learn batting and fielding skills and in tennis to send and receive a ball using a racket. We will also develop our throwing, agility, balance, co-ordination, accuracy, and control while engaging in a range of skills-based games.

## Art

In Summer 1, we will be learning about the style of cubism and the work of Paul Klee, particularly his work called 'Castle and Sun'. We will then look at Mary Blair and compare their work, noting similarities and differences. We will create our own cubism inspired castle drawings. We will also learn to use shading, hatching and cross hatching to create a final piece of work. Then we will apply our drawing skills to create a portrait of kings and queens.



In Summer 2, we will enjoy making recycled sculptures. We will make a knight using wire and tin foil and a castle using recycled materials. We will learn about the work of Anthony Gormley and Michelle Reader.

## Design and Technology

In DT, we will enjoy making free standing structures, deciding how to make our structures strong and experimenting with a range of building techniques to stabilise the building. We will be inspired by the work of Isambard Kingdom Brunel and create a new bridge design for the three billy goats after the troll broke their bridge!

## French

In French children will extend their knowledge of colours and animals and their noises. They will also learn the names of fruits, classroom objects, labels, instructions, numbers and how to say please and thank you.



## Computing



In computing, children will develop their understanding of the various aspects of using a computer to create and manipulate text. They will become more familiar with using a keyboard and mouse to enter and remove text. They will also consider how to change the look of their text and will be able to justify their reasoning in making these changes. Finally, learners will consider the differences between using a computer to create text and writing text on paper. They will be able to explain which method they prefer and explain their reasoning for choosing this.

In Summer 2, children will be introduced to on-screen programming through ScratchJr. They will explore the way a project looks by investigating sprites and backgrounds. They will use programming blocks to use, modify, and create programs. Learners will also be introduced to the early stages of program design through the introduction of algorithms.

Reception children will use simple apps and games on the computer and the ipads. They will have a go at creating some digital drawings. They will learn to use the basic functions of the computer, including the mouse and the keys.

## Music

This term in KS1, children will learn to play the ocarina - a 4 hole woodwind instrument. Children will learn to play the first 3 notes, to read dot notation and have the opportunity to compose their own music.



## Understanding the world – Reception

Children will understand some important processes and changes in the natural world around them, including the seasons and changing states of matter. We will also look at the changes of the seasons, weather and life cycles. They will learn about structures and materials, having opportunities to work in groups to create collaborative structures. We will also think about the journey we have been on in Reception and how we have grown and changed. This will help to prepare us as we move into Year 1. They will join in with some aspects of our learning on castles and knights, considering how life has changed from the past.

## Additional Foundation Subjects - Year 1 only

### History

In History we will look at pictures of castles from different periods, from the earliest Saxon ditch and rampart castles to later motte and bailey and stone castles. We will investigate timelines and order the castles from oldest to newest and explain their sequence. We will name and label parts of a castle and consider attack and defence strategies, by hearing the stories of two famous sieges: that of Dover Castle in 1265 and of Edinburgh Castle in 1571.

We will learn about the role of knights and the jobs people did inside the castle. We will learn about the story of William the Conqueror's invasion of England in 1066 and the claim to the English throne made by both Harold of Wessex and William Duke of Normandy. We will discover the Norman army wins at The Battle of Hastings and William is crowned King of England shortly after. William then sets about protecting his throne by building a number of impressive castles - the best known of which is the Tower of London. We will enjoy the fictional story of King Arthur and establish the difference between true history and fictional stories.



### Geography

In Geography, we will learn about great towers from around the world and using a simple key, show the locations of the towers on a world map. We will look at bridges near and far and use maps to identify the symbol used to show these features. World-famous tunnels and Engineers, including Isambard Kingdom Brunel. We will learn about amazing structures from around the world including The Statue of Liberty, the Empire State Building, Stonehenge, the Pyramids of Giza and the Great Wall of China.

### Science



In Summer 1 our initial focus will be 'Plants – bulbs and seeds'. Children will learn the differences between seeds and bulbs. When given a selection of food and plants they will also be able to identify where they came from. Children will also enjoy learning about our 'growing up' unit. Here, the children will develop their knowledge of lifecycles, whether it be a human, butterfly or amphibian life cycle. We will also explore the question, do certain categories of animals have similar life cycles? A key part of this topic will be learning key terminology such as, mammals, amphibians and reptiles.

In Summer 2 we will learn about 'Sustainability – Wildlife'. During our learning we will look at two key questions. What does wildlife do for us? In addition to, what can we do for wildlife? Children will learn about the positive contributions of birds, worms, bees and ladybirds. They will then speculate, plan and create something which positively contributes to our local wildlife.

### Religious education (RE)

Children will be learning about 'What was the good news Jesus brought?'. Children will explore a variety of stories from the bible and speculate as to the message it sends. We will also learn about the word 'gospel' and how this also relates to Jesus' good news. In Summer 2, we will explore the question, how should we care for the world and others? Children will learn about caring, compassionate acts and how this relates to religion. Do all religions have the same view of protecting the world. What differences and similarities can we find between them?

#### Big event

We will visit a castle and learn about what life was like in a castle many years ago.

#### How can you help at home?

- Encourage them to be independent in eating, getting dressed, looking after their belongings and going to the toilet.
- Listen to your child read daily and ask them questions about what they are reading to develop their comprehension skills. Share stories at bedtime as well as their daily reading practice to encourage reading for pleasure.
- Practice reading their phonics sounds and alien/nonsense words in their blue folder.
- There are some home learning activities in their home-school book if they would like to complete any for their current topic or you can decide on your own home learning activities. These are optional but will be celebrated in class.
- Help your child to learn key maths skills through every day, practical activities. There are some great online games and sites they can play on too, including our doodle learning site.
- Encourage your child to practise writing their letters and spelling their phonics words using their pencil in the tripod grip.
- Ask your children questions about their current topic and discuss their learning.

Thank you for your continued support!  
Mrs Westwood