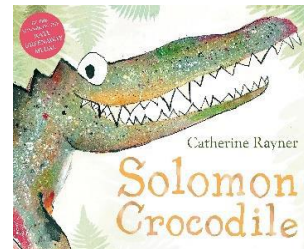


Dear Parents



In Autumn 2 our theme will be animals. In English, we'll be exploring both fiction and non-fiction texts related to animals. The children will be learning to identify and understand the features of poetry, non-fiction information texts and fiction stories. We'll be using two fantastic books to support our learning:

- ***"One Day on Our Blue Planet... in the Savannah"* by Ella Bailey**
- ***"Solomon Crocodile"* by Catherine Rayner**



These texts will help us develop key reading and writing skills while building knowledge and vocabulary about the animal world.

This term, we'll continue developing the children's sentence writing skills. We'll be practising how to write full sentences with capital letters at the beginning, finger spaces between words and full stops at the end. We'll also be learning how to make our writing more interesting by using question and exclamations. In English, the children will explore a range of text types, including poems, non-fiction information texts and story writing. In grammar, we'll be learning about singular and plural nouns and how to use them correctly in our writing.

The website **BBC Bitesize** has many videos and activities to help explain these skills to your child and the links are below.

1. How to structure a sentence:

What are nouns? <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zkxxsbk/articles/zpd8ng8>

What is a verb? <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zkxxsbk/articles/zpxhdxs>

What are adjectives? <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zkxxsbk/articles/zy2r6yc>

2. Using the conjunction "and" to join two sentences together:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zrqqtfr/articles/zmqtnrd>

3. Using finger spaces:

How to hold a pencil - <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/ztf8jsg/articles/zsdtn9q>

Using finger spaces - <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zgjj6sg/articles/z88gf82>

How to make finger spaces -

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zpvw7yc/articles/z4tbcmn>

4. Capital letters and full stops:

Capital letters - <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/z8x6cj6/articles/zj7dcmn>

Using a full stop - <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zkxxsbk/articles/zv78jhw>

How to use capital letters and full stops -

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/ztf8jsg/articles/z7s48hv>

5. Using question marks and exclamation marks:

How to use question marks -

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zkxxsbk/articles/zcm3qhv>

How to use an exclamation mark -

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zkxxsbk/articles/z3dcmgs>

5. Adding “s” and “es” to make plurals:

Single and plural words -

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zcgv39q/articles/z3dw4xs>

Some of the vocabulary in our texts might be new to your child so please help him/her with learning to understand these words:

Bugs - pesters	Savannah – a large grassy area of land with few trees	Lioness – a female lion	Cub – a baby lion
Den – an animal’s home	Pride – a group of lions	Stalking – quietly hunting another animal	Prey – an animal that is hunted by another animal for food
Peaceful – quiet and calm	Bank of the river – the land right next to the river	Croak – a sound made by a frog	Trouble/pest/nuisance /pain – something that is annoying
Bulrushes – a tall brown plant that grows at the side of the river	Charges -runs at	Stork – a very tall long legged bird	Squawk – a loud noise made by a bird

We continue to follow the *Little Wandle Letters and Sounds (Revised)* phonics programme to support your child’s reading and writing development. The Little Wandle website has lots of useful resources, including videos that demonstrate how to pronounce the sounds we teach in Year 1, as well as how we teach blending and early reading skills:

<https://www.littlewandlelettersandsounds.org.uk/resources/for-parents/>

There is also a dedicated You Tube Channel

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCP_FbjYUP_UtldV2K_-niWw with videos of the actual phonics lessons we use in class, shown in the correct teaching order. These are especially helpful if you're unsure how to pronounce a particular phoneme. For Year 1, look for **Autumn Term** lessons, select "**Play All**", then scroll down to **Lesson 1**.

Each half term, you’ll also receive a phonics booklet that outlines the sounds and letter formation we’re focusing on, so you can follow along at home.

This term, we’ll also be assessing children on their ability to read and spell the **first 100 high frequency words**. By the end of Year 1, children are expected to know all of these. Please support your child by practising these words regularly.

You can find fun activities on **BBC Bitesize**, and there are plenty of catchy songs on **YouTube** to help make learning tricky words more enjoyable.

Spelling tricky words - <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zcgv39q/articles/z38t2v4>

Spelling tricky words - <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zcgv39q/articles/zqx3sk7>

Spelling tricky words - <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zkxxsbk/articles/z7s9g7h>

Phase 2 high frequency words- <https://youtu.be/gvBzIOL7ouo?si=LoxpxPQcAZZZoRze>

Phase 2 tricky words- <https://youtu.be/TvMyssfAUx0?si=ml2fm6rEbVKGR-ei>

Phase 3 high frequency words - <https://youtu.be/eftL7XywLi0?si=sCPPQCU6gnlLPQHL>

Phase 3 tricky words - <https://youtu.be/ri4u0TjAZ38?si=VgM067eCbEJbAKwz>

Phase 4 high frequency words - https://youtu.be/1UyE7PMNan8?si=6Bw5-jSAkZ0_0kmu

Phase 4 tricky words - https://youtu.be/3NOzgR1ANc4?si=28X_e1qY8ilPYa03

Phase 5 high frequency words - <https://youtu.be/ibpm8z9sABw?si=NejNgs9hs7rxtC5y>

Many thanks

Year 1 team