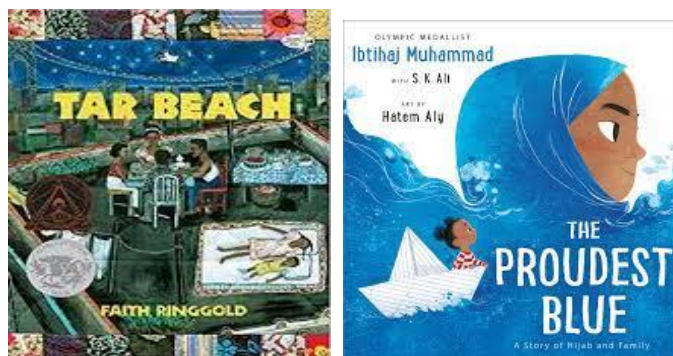


English Writing Update - Year 3, Autumn 2

This half-term, Year 3 are reading '*Tar Beach*,' by Faith Ringgold and '*The Proudest Blue*,' by Ibtihaj Muhammed and S. K. Ali.



In *Tar Beach*, Cassie Louise Lightfoot has a dream: to be free to go wherever she wants. One night, up on “Tar Beach” – the rooftop of her family’s Harlem apartment building – the stars lift her up, and she is flying!

In *The Proudest Blue*, Asiya’s hijab is like the ocean and the sky, no line between them, saying hello with a loud wave. Saying: “I’ll always be there,” like sisters.

Through reading and enjoying these texts, we will learn about cultural differences, whilst developing our skills in English. It would be helpful for your child to have access to this book and home, to explore further and share with you, whilst reading for enjoyment at home.

We will write a setting description, as well as a set of instructions. It would be useful for your child to describe their surroundings and notice how speech is punctuated in storybooks. It might also be useful if your child can write down any instructions that they follow at home.

As part of developing our writing skills, we will recap on the grammar and punctuation learnt in Year 2, as well as building on this by using the following grammatical features from the Year 3 curriculum:

- choosing nouns or pronouns appropriately for clarity and cohesion and to avoid repetition
- using conjunctions, adverbs and prepositions to express time and cause
- using fronted adverbials
- using and punctuating direct speech

Here are some useful links you could use at home with your child to help them secure an understanding of the work covered:

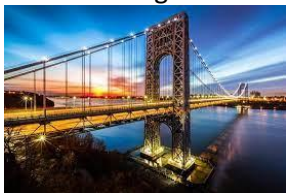
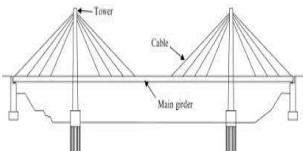
Conjunctions: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zwwp8mn/articles/zcdvp4j>

Fronted adverbials: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zwwp8mn/articles/zp937p3>

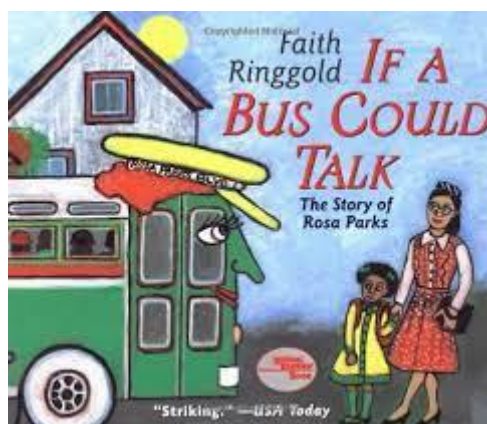
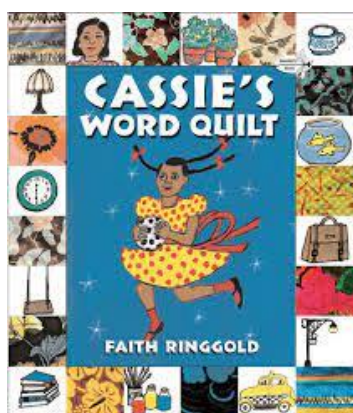
General grammar: <https://www.bbc.com/bitesize/topics/zwwp8mn>

We also had a year group spelling test from the national Year 3 and 4 spelling list at the start of the term. This test was sent home during parents’ evening, so you can see how to support your child with these spellings across the year. The national expectation is for pupils to be able to spell these words by the end of Year 4, so they have a long time to build their spelling skills and learn how to spell and use about half of these words by the end of Year 3. https://cdn.oxfordowl.co.uk/2019/08/29/13/54/08/76f1443d-9b6d-4030-be0d-25fcfef01438/SpellingWordList_Y3-4.pdf . In the meantime, they have a set of 10 spellings to learn each week to help them make progress to the expected standard for their age.

Please find below a word mat with key vocabulary we will learn. It would be useful to introduce these words at home, so pupils can build a deeper understanding of the book.

bridge 	rooftop 	floodlights 	steel girders 	skyscraper 
cables 	marvel = to be filled with wonder, astonishment and amazement 	hijab 	ocean 	curtsy 

To continue to develop a love of reading, you might want to read some more books by the same authors:



We thank you in advance for your continued support.

Yours faithfully,

The Year 3 Team