

# Swords, Dragons and Heroes

YEAR 3  
SPRING 1  
2023-24

## PROJECT OVERVIEW

Long, long ago, back in the mists of time, George and the Dragon will mark the beginning of this legendary project. After exploring the legend in detail and reading a variety of other legends, the children will plan, write and publish their own. They will create their own character for their legend and then bring it to life by designing and making a puppet using paper and paste. They will learn about the importance of working carefully and master the skill of laminating smoothly in order to achieve the optimum effect. They will then share their finished, published story with their reading partners and use their puppets in the telling of their story. The puppets and published stories will be made into a legend library for others to read. Characters from legends were necessarily strong and fit and an understanding of bones and muscles in science will help the children to know about the human skeleton and how joints work. They will also have the opportunity to investigate some animal skeletons, compare them to that of human beings and consider the type of skeleton their legendary monster or dragon may have had and why.

## ENGLISH

The children will read the legend of George and the Dragon, identifying its structure and the way in which vivid description is used to create character and setting effectively. They will use the storyline from George and the Dragon to write their own legend setting, hero and monster character. They will plan and write a legend, then review and improve their writing before publishing. In reading sessions, the children will explore the legend of Arthur and the Golden Rope. They will develop their skills of prediction, explain language in context and infer the thoughts and feelings of a range of characters.

## MATHS

The children will learn to recognise, compare and order fractions on a number line. They will use bar models to show fractions and to find fractions that are equivalent. They will learn how to add and subtract fractions with the same denominator. In geometry, the children will learn how to recognise right angles in everyday objects and in shapes and recognise when an angle is greater than or less than a right angle. They will also review and build upon their addition and subtraction knowledge using mental strategies and the expanded column method to add and subtract 3 digit numbers. Finally, they will develop their understanding of key facts about time and learn how to write time from an analogue clock using 12 hour and 24 hour clocks.

## SCIENCE

The children will think about the strength of heroes and dragons in an exploration of the human skeleton. They will learn about and develop their understanding of bones and muscles, their function and purpose. The children will compare a human skeleton to an animal skeleton considering movement, support and protection. The children will plan and carry out their own science experiment to explore the effect of bone structure and size on the ability to throw.

## RE

This half term the children will learn about the concept of Creation. They will place Creation within the timeline of the Bible's 'Big Story'. They will make clear links between Genesis 1 and what Christians believe about God and Creation. They will describe what Christians do as they believe God is the Creator. The children will be encouraged to ask questions and suggest answers about what might be important in the creation story for Christians living today, and for people who are not Christians.

## GEOGRAPHY

In Geography this half term the children will learn about the processes of the water cycle. A visit from the Wessex River Trust showcasing the features of a river and the impact that humans can have on our local rivers and what can be done to help through an interactive assembly will initiate the children's learning about rivers, which will span the whole of the spring term. Later in the project, a visit to the River Meon will help to further develop the children's understanding of ways in which humans use and manage rivers. They will use atlases and 2 figure grid references to locate some of the major rivers of the world.

## HISTORY

No unit this half term

## ART

No unit this half term

## DT

The children will learn how to make a 3D paper maché puppet of a legend character. They will first design their puppet and list resources they will need in order to be successful. Once created, children will be given the opportunity to evaluate the process of making their puppet and identify any improvements they could have made along the journey.

## MUSIC

The children will learn how to play a brass instrument. Throughout this half term, they will be taking part in weekly 'Listen2me' lessons taught by a Hampshire music teacher. They will learn the technical terms for different parts of the instrument, how to position themselves correctly to play. They will learn how to play notes, keep the pulse and play effectively as a group. At the end of the term, the children will perform for an audience.

## FRENCH

The children begin this half term by learning about French New Year celebrations and traditions. They will learn how to introduce themselves in French and how to ask someone's name. Songs, games and rhymes will support their learning as they practice new skills and review their prior learning. They will also learn about some other French speaking countries around world.

## COMPUTING

The children will learn to take and manipulate photographs, they will enhance digital images using crop, brightness, contrast and resize and learn to layer images. Also, they will learn to create digital art using a range of tools, pens, brushes, effects and shapes. In word processing they will improve their touch typing skills. In online safety they will learn about personal information online, being careful before sharing and knowing who to ask about sharing information online.

## PE

The children will complete a gymnastics unit for inside PE this half term, developing their flexibility, strength, technique, control and balance. For outside PE, the children will be developing their racket and ball skills with the aim of taking part in competitive tennis games.

## PSHE

**Belonging to a Community:** The value of rules and laws; rights, freedoms and responsibilities.

**Media Literacy and Digital Resilience:** How the internet is used; assessing information online.

**Money and Work:** Different jobs and skills; job stereotypes; setting personal goals.