



*Be all you can be*  
Hayes School

Reception Curriculum Plan: Spring 1 2024

Romp and Stomp in the Swamp



**The Big Question:**  
**How do we know dinosaurs really existed?**

Responsibility Success Aspirations Resilience Discovery Friendship



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**At Hayes, we strive for our children to push beyond any perceived idea of potential, to be all they can be, regardless of background. Our vision is for all of our children to leave us as good human beings- happy, kind and responsible. Our curriculum is integral in shaping the children to become independent and life-long learners. Our curriculum aims to equip our children with the ability to 'think' in order to make sense of an ever-changing world. The breadth our curriculum provides is underpinned by thinking. This thinking will allow our children to make sense of the world around them and before them in order that they can live fulfilling and happy lives, being all they can be.**





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**This term will be all about ‘facilitating the learning’ to ignite one of the most popular children’s interest: Dinosaurs! They will put their palaeontological skills to the test to investigate if dinosaurs really existed! Learning opportunities will involve excavating fossils and finding out about the work of paleontologist Mary Anning and the drawings of paleoartist Charles R Knight. To support the ‘awe and wonder’ of children’s fascination of these ancient magnificent creatures, we will have a baby stegosaurus in residence who gets up to lots of mischief at night hence the video footage. The children will have opportunities to describe, measure, explore, predict all through the 7 areas of learning. This exciting topic will certainly continue to drive their passion for learning.**



# Curriculum Questions

## BIG Question: Did dinosaurs ever exist?

<u>Personal, Social and Emotional</u>	<u>Communication and Language</u>	<u>Physical development</u>	<u>Understanding of the World</u>	<u>Expressive arts and design</u>
<p>Are you ready to go on a dinosaur adventure? What will you need? Who will you take with you? What is your favourite dinosaur and why? How many dinosaurs can you name? Which ones do you dislike? Why do you not like it?</p>	<p>How many dinosaurs can you name? Can you describe how it looks? Can you describe their features? What does it smell like? What happened to the dinosaurs?</p>	<p>Can you move like a dinosaur? How would they move their head? What equipment can we use to cross the dinosaur infested swamp? How can we work as a team? Do you have the confidence to climb? Can you use a rope to skip? Can you balance on a bike or scooter? Can you balance a wheelbarrow?</p>	<p>What was it like millions and millions of years ago? Can you describe different features on a dinosaur? What did dinosaurs eat? Which dinosaurs eat meat and which eat plants? Do any dinosaurs eat both? How big were dinosaurs? Do dinosaurs still exist? How did they become extinct?</p>	<p>Why was paleoart important? What colours/medium will you use to draw your dinosaur? Do you think they had fur, feathers, skin? Can you build/make a dinosaur? How can we recreate their habitat? Can you make a dinosaur swamp?</p>



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### **Prime Area: Communication and Language**

This half term, we shall support children to:

- Use descriptive language.
- Ask questions to find out more and to check they understand what has been said to them.
- Retell a story with story language.
- Listen to and talk about stories to build familiarity and understanding.
- Learn rhymes, poems and songs.
- Describe events in some detail.
- Continue to develop their vocabulary, through a range of high quality texts and adult/child led play experiences throughout the day.







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**Prime Area: Personal, Social and Emotional  
Development**

This half term, we shall support children build on resilience and perseverance across the EYFS curriculum by helping them to:

- Stay motivated when doing something challenging.
- Keep trying even when it is difficult.
- Work well with a partner or in a group.
- Have a positive attitude.
- Help others to achieve their goals.
- Work hard to achieve their own dreams and goals.





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### Prime Area: Physical Development

This half term, our provision will ensure children can access spaces and resources that provide for varying confidence levels, skills and needs to support a broad range of abilities.

- Develop muscle tone through malleable materials with increasing control.
- Continue to use a variety of tools to effect changes to different materials especially scissors..
- Drawing more freely and continue to form letters correctly.
- Increase confidence with handling small items eg: using buttons on clothing
- Our PE sessions will focus on aiming, dribbling, pushing, throwing & catching, patting, or kicking.







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### Specific Area: Literacy

This half term, we will be looking a range of stories linked to dinosaurs. The children will learn to:

- Write simple dinosaur facts.
- Label dinosaurs and describe their features.
- Write CVC words / simple sentence writing using high frequency words
- Writing some of the red words such as I, me, my, like, to, the.
- Through group writing, develop short sentences in a meaningful context.
- Continue to practise writing their names independently.

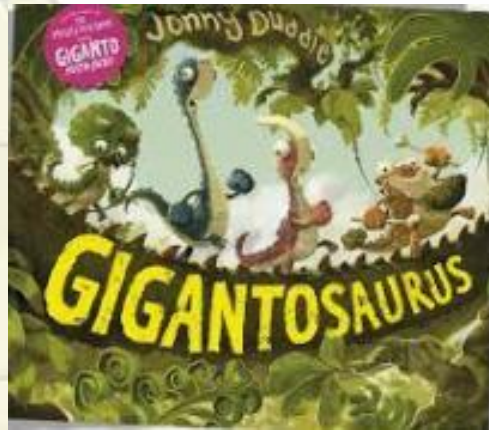




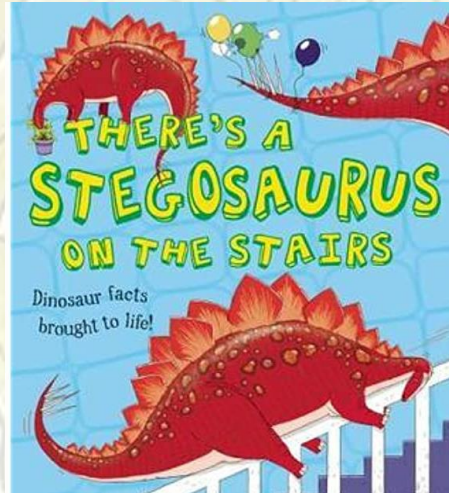
# English Texts

Main Text: Gigantosaurus

Author: Jonny Dundee



The Gigantosaurus is the biggest, fiercest, scariest dinosaur of all – he's the one that all prehistoric parents warn their offspring about, especially when they go off into the jungle to play by themselves, so it's a relief to the junior dinos in this story when Bonehead offers to be the lookout during their game.



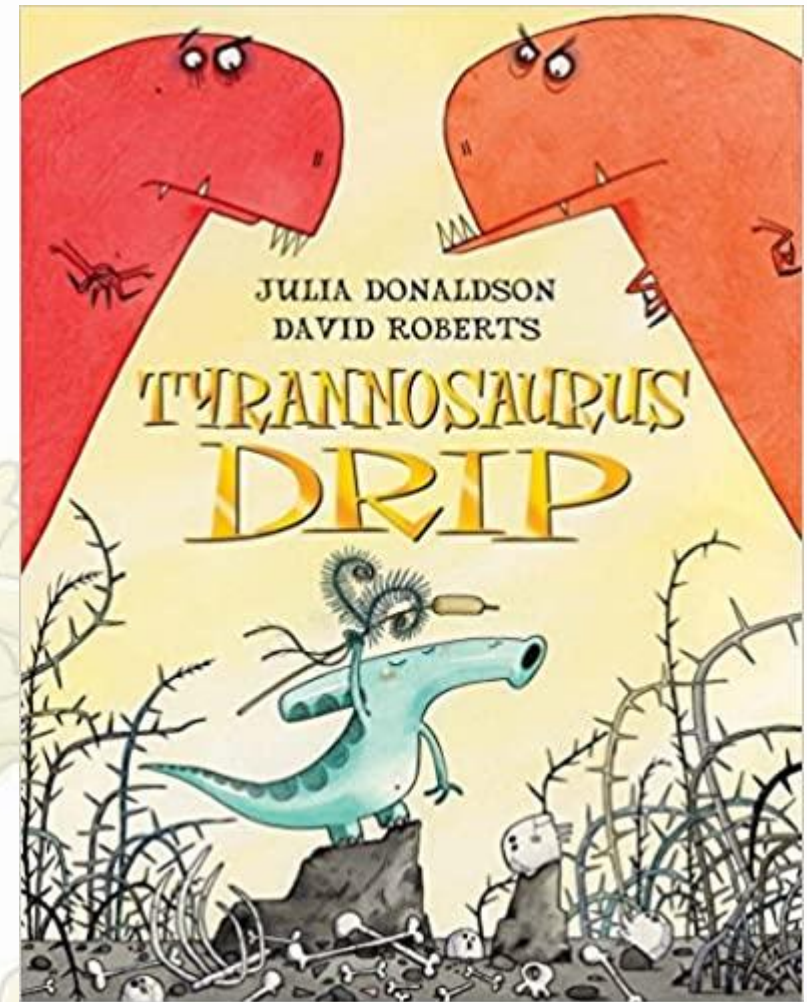
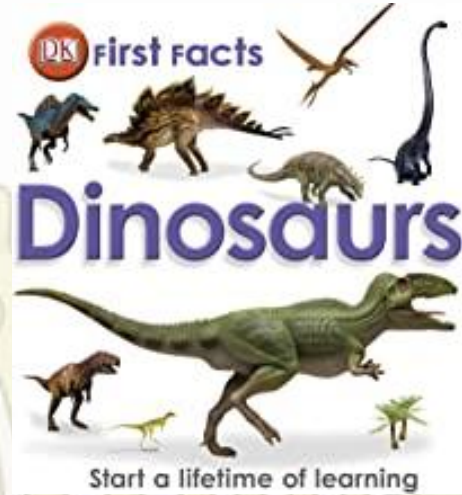
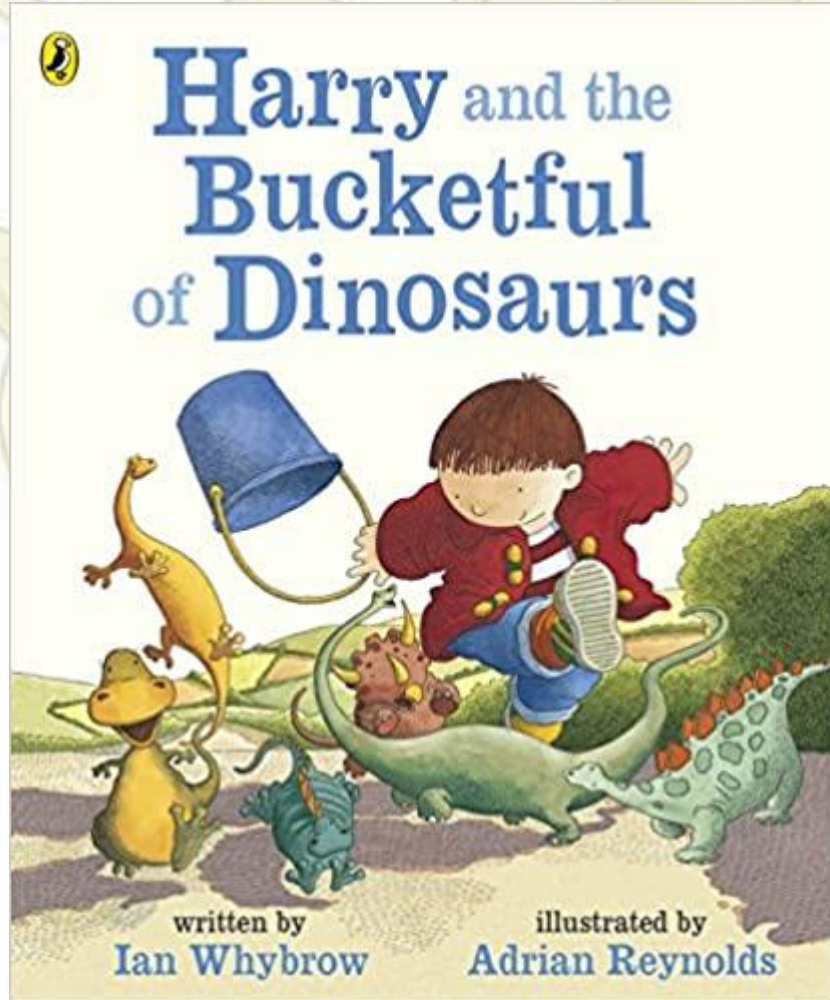
Supportive Text: There's a Stegosaurus on the Stairs.

Author: Ruth Symons

Join Stegosaurus as he starts school, goes to a party and takes a nap. Along the way, discover just how big, slow and spiky he really was! Have you ever wondered how dinosaurs would cope if they were alive today? What if they went to the dentist? What if they went to a birthday party? What if they came round for dinner? What if a dinosaur...? The story gives the children a simple introduction to four dinosaur species: Tyrannosaurus Rex, Diplodocus, Stegosaurus and Triceratops. By imagining dinosaurs in modern-day scenarios, readers can learn about their size, diet and other features. For example, a Stegosaurus weighed as much as three cars - so just imagine how it would play on a seesaw! Engaging question and answer format will keep young readers entertained and help them to understand and retain dinosaur facts.



# Other supportive texts:



Stories and information texts are used as a strong vehicle to support children's learning throughout all the curriculum in EYFS.



# English Key Vocabulary

<b>Knowing Words</b>	<b>Growing Words</b>	<b>Showing off Words</b>
<b>rock</b>	<b>swamp</b>	<b>cretaceous</b>
<b>plant</b>	<b>fossils</b>	<b>palaeontologist</b>
<b>dinosaur</b>	<b>jaw</b>	<b>paleoartist</b>
<b>teeth</b>	<b>spikes</b>	<b>excavation</b>
<b>bones</b>	<b>crest</b>	<b>extinct</b>
<b>eggs</b>	<b>volcano</b>	<b>carnivore</b>
<b>meat</b>	<b>huge</b>	<b>herbivore</b>
<b>big</b>	<b>Millions of years ago</b>	<b>colossal</b>
<b>Long time ago</b>	<b>scales</b>	<b>prehistoric</b>



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## Early Reading

**This half term, we will continue to work in phonic groups according to the children's phonic knowledge.**

- **We will recap all the first 26 speed sounds and set 2 additional digraphs.**
- **We will be blending cvc/ccvc words as well as looking at rhyming and alliteration.**

**You can help to support your child by:**

- **Read to your child everyday**
- **Listen to your child read their ditty/book everyday**
- **Showing your child how to touch each letter as they say the sound or blend the word.**
- **help your child to identify the sound that is tricky to read in red words, such as 'the' and 'said'.**







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### Specific Area: Maths

This children will continue to experience maths through whole class and guided sessions, stories, class routines and enhanced provision in their play.

Focus will be given to the following areas:

- Numbers within 10+.
- Count up to ten objects.
- Represent, order and explore numbers to ten.
- One more or fewer, one greater or less.
- Addition and subtraction within 10
- Explore addition as counting on and subtraction as taking away.
- Subitising - 'noticing how many as opposed to 'counting' how many'.
- Exploring capacity and mass.
- Exploring length, height and time.

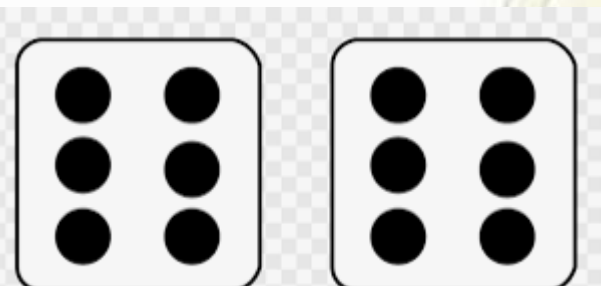
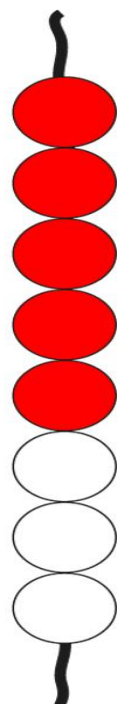
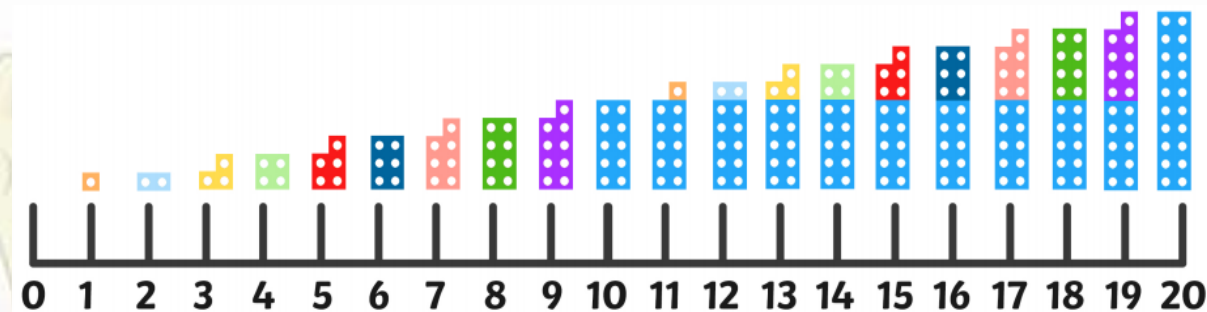
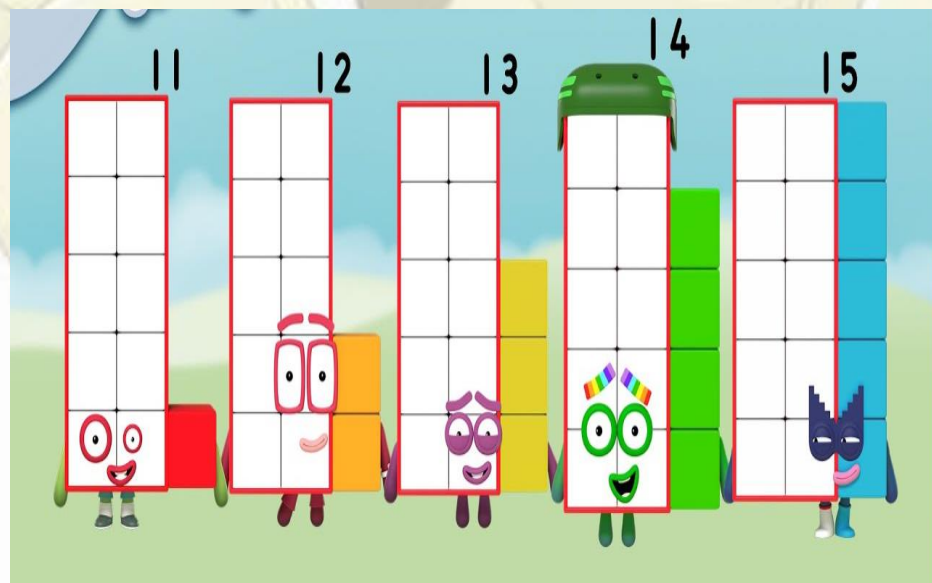




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## Maths-Models and Images



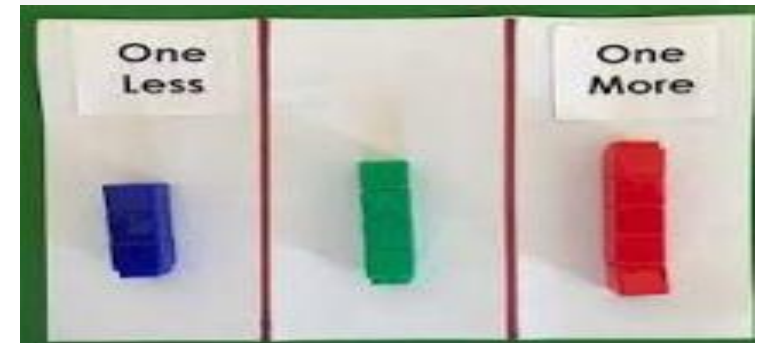
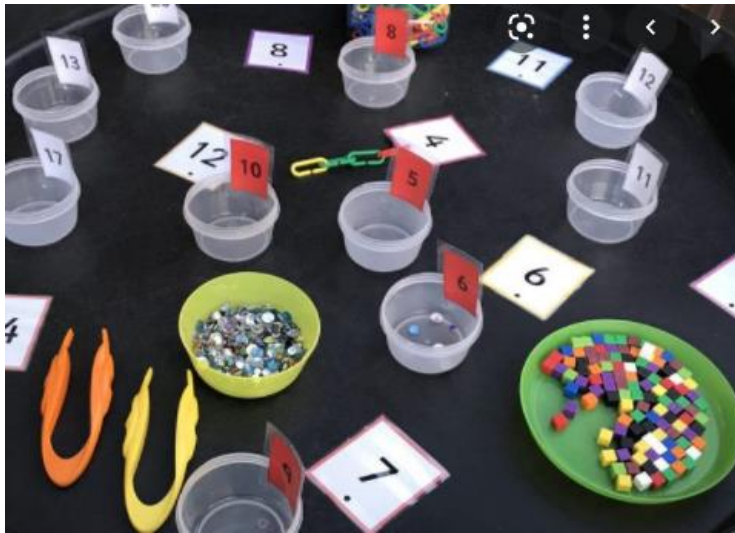
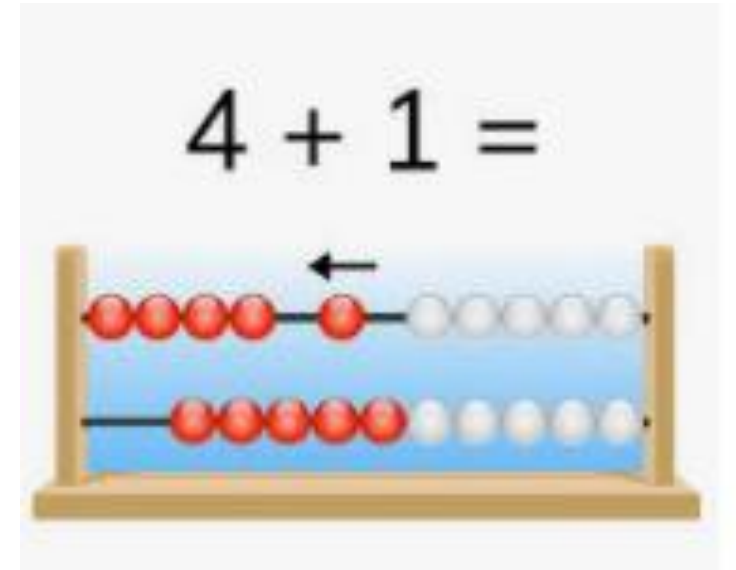
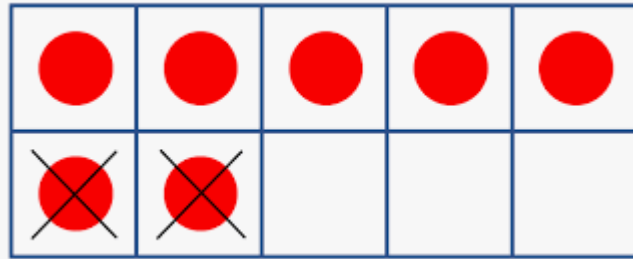




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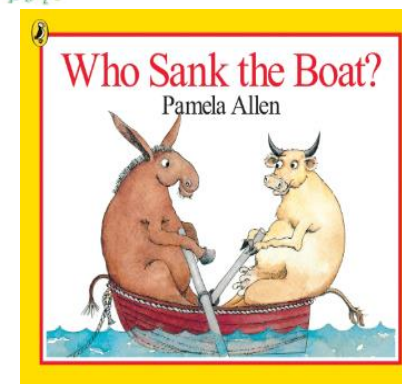
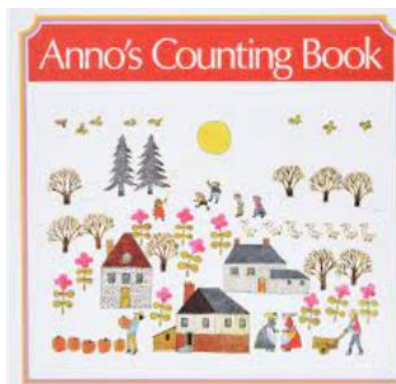
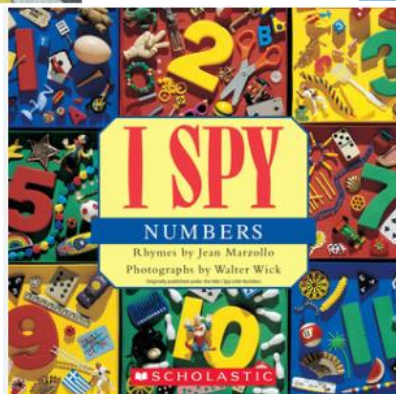
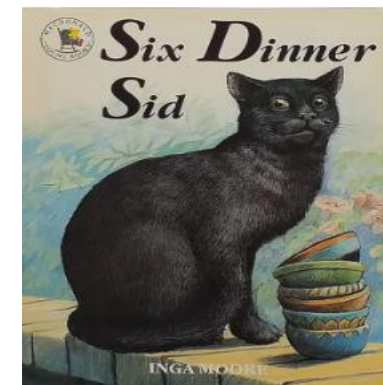
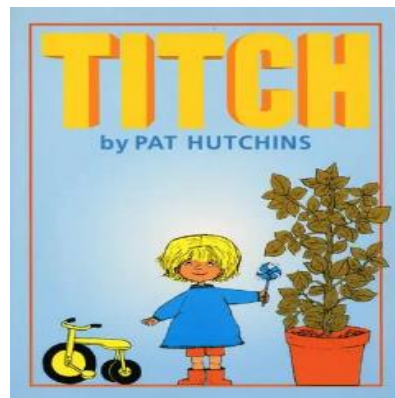
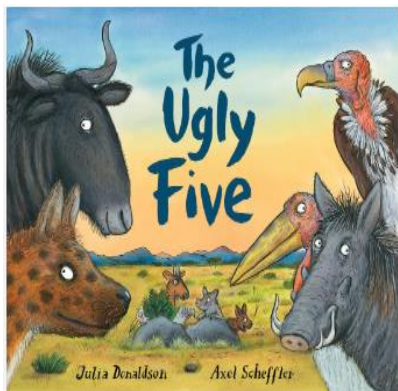


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## Maths through stories

To support the children's language and different concepts of maths, we also expose them to a wide range of stories that include a mathematical theme.







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**Specific area: Understanding of the World**

Within this area of learning, the children will have opportunities to:

- Learn from images, video clips, shared texts and other resources to find out about the wider world.
- To excavate fossils and identify different features of dinosaurs - exploring rocks, fossils and evolution.
- Learn about what a paleontologist is and how they explore fossils. Introduce Mary Anning as the first female to find a fossil.
- To understand dinosaurs were alive a very long time ago.
- Investigate different materials such as ice, cornflower within their play experiences and observe the changing seasons.
- Discuss their own past linking it to experience of past birthday celebrations and other significant events. Include Valentines Day and Chinese New Year on our 'Reception celebration timeline', discussing each celebration.





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### Specific area: Expressive Arts and Design

Through this area of learning, the children will have opportunities to:

- Investigate the paleoartist, Charles R Knight.
- Make salt dough/clay fossils.
- Create shadow puppets of different dinosaurs.
- Make lanterns, explore Chinese writing, Chinese music and composition.
- Learn different techniques for joining materials, such as how to use adhesive tape and different sorts of glue.
- Create dinosaur 'small world' models.
- Continue to sing known songs and rhymes and learn new ones accordingly.
- Add storylines to their imaginative play.

