

Year 5 – School closure topic work

Here are some things to do if you are stuck at home:

- **Insect study** Find out why bees are so important to the environment. Find out which plants and shrubs would encourage bees to your garden and plant some if you are allowed to. Make a 'bug hotel' to accommodate any 6-legged visitors you may have. Do some drawings of insects that you might find in a British garden or hedgerow.
- **Plant study** Buy a packet of cress or mustard seeds – or some broad beans – if you're able to. Plant them in eg old yogurt pots and watch them germinate and grow. Create a graph to show their rate of development. Put some of the pots in different places to see which variables make a difference to germination and growth. If you have any flowers at home, take a really good look at them, noticing any different parts of them. Draw and label what you see. Can you find out what the different parts of a plant do?
- **Mammal study** Choose a mammal that particularly interests you. Find out about its habitat, what it eats, its lifespan etc etc. You may want to find out about different mammals so that you can compare and contrast them. (Top Trumps would be a good game to create for this!)
- **Lion Boy** Think about all the work we have done on Lion Boy. Can you create a piece of work which will show what you know and give your opinions on the story? A book review would be good. Or you could rewrite the story in your own words. Create a picture book for younger children. Write a 'fan letter' to Charley, telling him why you think he's so great. Create a poster for the circus or a new cover for the book. Perhaps you could use your knowledge of shadows and re-enact part of the story using shadow puppets. You could even make your own puppet theatre! Whatever you would like to do, based on the novel.
- **Light and Vision** Create a mini-book for younger pupils, explaining how we see things, how the eye works, and how/why we can see colour. Perhaps you could create your own colour spinner to show people at home how white is created? You could try making a pair of glasses with different colour lenses to see how things look – and why! Check out the tests that opticians use for colour-blindness. How do they work? Maybe you could create a similar pattern of your own?
- **The River Tyne** If you can get to the Quayside, take a walk along the river. What evidence can you find of the history of the river? What buildings are there and why? What has changed over time? What clues are there to the past? Look at the bridges and think about how different their designs are. Which do you prefer and why? Why do you

think there are so many bridges?

Maybe you can create an artwork inspired by the Quayside. Go up to the viewing gallery of the Baltic for a really good view! (All of your research can be done via images on Google if you can't get out.)

- **VE Day** VE day is coming up. Do some research and find out why this date is so important in UK history. Maybe someone in your family was alive on VE day. Interview them about any memories they have of that celebration. Find some documentaries on iPlayer or youtube and watch them with your family. Perhaps you could create a VE Day party in your home, using only food that would have been available in 1945.

- **French** We have been working on a weather topic, ready to 'perform' our own weather forecast. Try to find a French weather forecast online, on the radio or in a magazine. Listen out for any words or phrases you understand. To prepare yourself for our next topic, create a picture dictionary (in French, of course!) of food and drink.

- **Writing** You very rarely get the chance to write your own story. Every year, the BBC runs a competition called 500 words. Have a look on their website at some of the winners. Can you get a headstart for next year and write one of your own?

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/articles/KNWsKPrg7stQ54tTbcf6P7/500-words-the-stories>

Reading and viewing

Carry on with the reading challenge!

Try and find some suitable factual programmes to enhance your learning, especially nature and history programmes.