

# Inspirational Starter Lessons

pupil's initial experience/hook/stimulating new text all help to ignite excitement for new learning. The experiences we offer our pupils are paramount to their personal as well as their academic development.

It's clear that fun has an impact on learning effectiveness and memory retention. It also promotes self-determination and self-led learning.



“ YOU CAN TEACH A STUDENT  
A LESSON FOR A DAY, BUT IF  
YOU CAN TEACH HIM TO LEARN  
BY CREATING CURIOSITY, HE WILL  
CONTINUE THE LEARNING  
PROCESS AS LONG AS HE LIVES.

— CLAY P. BEDFORD



“Tell me and I forget, teach me and I may  
remember, involve me and I learn.”

— Benjamin Franklin

“Develop a passion for learning. If you do,  
you will never cease to grow.”

— Anthony J. D'Angelo



Learning is the process  
whereby knowledge is  
created through the  
transformation of experience

“Play is our  
brain's favourite  
way of learning.”

—Diane Ackerman—



Here are some examples of the lessons that capture our children's interest and thirst for learning.

We call these our Inspirational Starter Lessons. These do not have to be done at the start of the topic, sometimes they are at the end of a topic.

# Reception

Reception - Forest School



Forest School in Reception.



To start off their learning all about the Nativity. Reception visited the travelling Nativity to immerse themselves in the story.



To link with their Minibeast topic, Reception made wings and took them outside to experience life as a butterfly.



Reception children made, tasted and described porridge to immerse themselves into their fairytales topic.

Reception had an experience day: looking after Cleo the dog. They took her for a walk, learnt how to look after her and even read to her. This was the start of them learning about animals and inspired lots of writing. The children even wrote letters to paw patrol persuading them to let Cleo become a 'super dog'. They linked their visit from Cleo to Catholic Social Teaching.



# Year 1



To link with their Toys topic in History, Year 1 read 'The Teddy Robber' in English. The children found all the stolen bears in the woods before writing a letter.



To inspire and capture their interest, the children made their own disgusting sandwiches for all the staff. They then had to write the teachers letters convincing them to try them.



When reading 'The Jelly Bean Stalk'. The children found a 'Jelly Bean stalk' in the playground.



In Science, children learn about animals and their habitats. They made their own animal habitats. The class had a visit from 'Timmy' the tortoise.



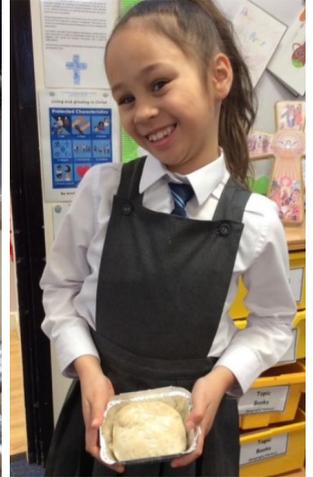
Writing in role as Kings and Queens, and making castles out of boxes.



Pirate day to inspire writing opportunities in Year 1



# Year 2



Year 2 had a 'Flight day' and turned the classroom into a travel agents to start off their Flight Topic.

For their topic on the Great Fire of London, Year 2 became bakers and made their own bread. They made their own tudor houses and safely set these a light. The children could then see how the flames spread quickly in 1666.



# Year 3



Stone Age day in Year 3, campfire, cave paintings and den buildings to give children an experience day linking with their Stone Age Topic.

The children recreated models of stonehenge.

# Year 4



Turning our class into a tomb and becoming 'Howard Carter' as part of our Egyptian topic.



As a scientist, I can identify the different parts of the digestive system.



Visit to Natural History Museum to link with their Egyptian Topic. Interview with an archeologist from the museum.



# Year 5

Children in Y5 enjoyed Greek Day in class this week to tie into their history topic learning about Greece. It was a really exciting day and we got to try lots of different food from Greece such as humous, tzatziki, feta cheese, taramasalata, Greek yoghurt, honey and apples and we all really enjoyed it!

Miss Zographou came into our class later in the day and taught us the Greek alphabet and how to write our names using Greek letters and symbols. It was such a fun day and a great learning experience. Thank you to the teachers for all their hard work

Report by Valentina N and Bethany H (Y5)

Green screen speeches in role as Odysseus. Children wrote speeches in role as Odysseus and then recorded these in front of a green screen.



Making cookies for the residents at a local care home to deliver as part of our R.E. Learning about C.S.T.



# Year 6



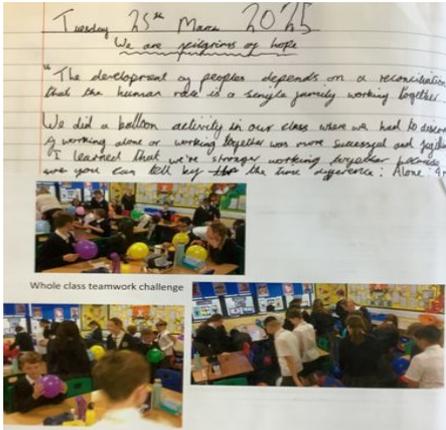
## Year 6 Trip to Royal Institute London

On Monday Y6 travelled to the Royal Science Institution in London where we were lucky enough to spend the day carrying out exciting experiments. Inside the laboratory we obtained and isolated our DNA from our own saliva. Once we had isolated the DNA, we transferred it to a necklace which we then were able to take home with us.

While we were there, we took a tour through the museum which was dedicated to chemist and physicist Michael Faraday and his career with electricity. We enjoyed this trip very much, we learnt a lot of new information and we came home with our very own necklaces.

Thank you to the teachers for organising a great trip and to the parents who kindly helped on the day.

Report by George W (Y6)



Year 6 set up a charity day to raise money for the Rainforest. They designed their own way of raising money and organised it for children across year groups to participate.

Year 6 children have used balloons to find out it's better to work together than alone. They wrote their name on a balloon and then had to find it among all the other balloons but when they helped each other, it was a much simpler task.

Year 6 pupils also interviewed workers about their working conditions. After gathering information from their interviews, they wrote letters to trade unions. The children also designed websites for the charity, Caritas.

