

St Thomas More R.C. Primary – Early Years  
What I am Learning – Summer 2: Beside the Sea



Area of Learning	Activities	Area of Learning	Activities
Communication & Language	We will be exploring a number of key texts over this half term including 'The Snail and the Whale, Sharing a Shell and Tiddler.' We will be discussing the stories in detail, developing the children's understanding and encouraging them to answer 'how' and 'why' questions and exploring new vocabulary linked to coastal regions, sea creatures and other geographical language. We will be talking about coastal areas and making comparisons between the UK and other places around the world.	Mathematics	During this half term, we will be focussing on identifying and naming 2D (and some 3D for Reception) shapes, talking about their properties and creating structures and pictures with shapes. We will also be exploring measurement and weight during this half term. We will explore standard and non-standard units of measurement, talking about size and weight, making comparisons and weighing and measuring everyday objects.
Physical Development	We will be continuing to focus upon develop the children's fine and gross motor skills through our Dough Disco, Wiggle me into a Squiggler and Squiggle while you Wiggle sessions and through different activities linked to our theme. The Nursery children will continue to practise their 'name writing and markmaking' daily (just for short periods of time throughout the week) and Nursery will continue to access the wider schoolgrounds for large scale movements and opportunities to access wheeled bikes, trikes, cars and scooters. For Reception children, our PE focus will continue to be 'Athletics and Team Games.' We will be encouraging the children to continue to practice their letter formation and handwriting alongside fine motor activities to develop precision and control.	Understanding the World	Linking with the topic, we will be exploring coastal areas in the UK and around the world. We will use maps and globes to identify the locations and talk about similarities and differences. We will also look at images of the coast from the present day and from the past and talk about the changes we see. We will also be exploring and using a range of geographical language and introducing the children to vocabulary linked to the 'coast.'
Personal, Social and Emotional Development	We will continue to reinforce our positive class rules and boundaries. We will continue with circle time activities, modelling positive behaviours/friendships and discussing different aspects of our feelings. We will continue to explore our three school rules in more detail – Ready, Respectful & Safe. We will be continuing with our 'MyHappyMind' sessions. We will continue to build on our existing knowledge further explore goal setting, how it feels when we achieve something new and perseverance. We will be talking about transition and preparing Nursery and Reception for the changes ahead in September. Reception children will be visiting Key Stage One, meeting the staff and getting used to be in and around the building.	Expressive Arts & Design	We will be creating landscapes of coastal areas using different materials and techniques. We will also be creating sea creatures using a variety of resources, materials and techniques. We will also be celebrating St Thomas More's Feast Day this half term. We will be exploring the life of St Thomas More and painting portraits of him.

<p><i>Literacy</i></p>	<p>Our phonics sessions will continue this half term for Nursery and Reception children (separate sessions for each year group) and the length of these sessions will continue to extend slightly for the Reception children in preparation for the transition into Year 1. We will also be focussing some of our Literacy work around our key texts and around our theme. We will be writing setting description, describing characters, making predictions and re-telling different parts of the story.</p>	<p>RE</p>	<p>In our Religion work this half term we will be exploring the Creation Story and God's Wonderful World. We will be discussing the ways in which we can care for our world, revisit our work on the late Pope Francis' letter 'Laudato Si' and we will be looking at the ways that we can have an impact on our planet. We will also be celebrating St Thomas More's Feast day in June and attend Mass with our School Family during this half term.</p>
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