

St Thomas More R.C. Primary - Reception class
What I am Learning - Summer 1: Knights & Castles
 Texts: Hector and the Big, Bad Knight



Area of Learning	Activities	Area of Learning	Activities
Communication & Language	This half term we will be continuing to develop our listening skills through circle time activities, story sessions and through partner work. We will be discussing many different elements of our text 'Hector and The Big Bad Knight' and we will be making predictions for the story, using adjectives to describe different elements in the story, e.g. the setting, the characters etc. Linking with our 'Castles and Knights' topic, we will be asking lots of 'how' and 'why' questions and encouraging the children to do the same. We will be exploring new vocabulary linked to our theme - castle, moat, drawbridge, portcullis, armour, shield, turrets, knights, medieval, mythical creatures, village, countryside etc.	Mathematics	In our Maths work, we will continue to revisit number work to 20 and beyond, including revision of our number bonds, addition and subtraction. We will be working on doubling and halving numerals (to 10), using practical resources to support our work. Through practical activities, we will also explore grouping and sharing objects.
Physical Development	We will be continuing to focus on developing the children's fine and gross motor skills through different activities throughout the day. In our phonics groups, we will continue to practise letter formation on a daily basis. In PE this half term, we will be focussing on 'Athletics and Mini Games' which involves developing the different elements of team tasks and encourages the children to work collaboratively as part of team.	Understanding the World	We will continue to look at changes in our environment and discuss them. We will be discussing/learning lots more about Castles around the country and some historical facts about them. We will also look at different 'villages' (linking with the village setting in our story) and talking about similarities and differences between villages and our local area. We will also spend some time researching the Royal Family and the castles and buildings they live and work in. We will also explore and investigate different materials that would be suitable for a boat for Hector as he tries to cross the moat in the story.
Personal, Social and Emotional Development	We will continue to reinforce our positive class rules and boundaries and we will introduce the children to the '@good to be Green' chart as they prepare for transition into Key Stage One. We will be encouraging the children to access different classroom areas and talk about why they prefer some activities to others. We are also encouraging the children to take more responsibility in resolving problems independently. Through our RE work, we will be exploring Pentecost, the Holy Spirit, the Good News and how we are all friends of Jesus.	Expressive Arts & Design	We will be experimenting with different materials and creative techniques this half term. We will be painting pictures in the form of 'Still Life.' We also plan to explore different paint techniques to achieve different textures like the long, tangled weeds in our new story and we will also be creating a new wand for Granny after the Big, Bad Knight took it from her! In Music, the children will be creating music using the instruments independently, with a partner or in a small group, creating 'graphic scores.' We will be encouraging the children to adapt and make changes to the music they have created.

<p>Literacy</p>	<p>We will be sharing stories/ books related to our topic and we will be encouraging the children to listen and respond appropriately. Our text this half term 'Hector and the Big Bad Knight' provides a variety of writing opportunities - WANTED posters/signs/notices, setting descriptions and writing plans. We will be encouraging the children to apply their phonics skills into their guided and independent writing, focusing on developing writing captions and sentences.</p> <p>Our phonics groups will continue on a daily basis and these sessions will begin to last a little longer as the children are progressing through the phonics scheme.</p>	<p>RE</p>	<p>In our Religion work this half term we will be exploring Pentecost, the Holy Spirit, the Good News and how we are all friends of Jesus. We will also be exploring 'Islam' as part of 'Faiths Week' during this half term and research place of Worship, symbols of the Faith, celebrations and other key information.</p>
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