



Year 5 Curriculum Overview Term 1.1

Teaching Team:

Class Teachers: Miss Rehman, Miss Fowler and Miss Nur

Teaching Assistant: Mrs Patel


SLT: Mr Mazhar

PE: PE lessons are on **Monday**.

On this day, children must be wearing their P.E kits. This includes a white t-shirt, black bottoms and trainers. No jewellery is to be worn on PE days; parents must remove this before bringing their child to school on this day.

Homework: Homework is set on **Friday** and completed by **Wednesday**.

**Please see below an overview of the main themes, knowledge,
and skills we will be covering this half term.**

Significant People	Jacinda Ardern (linked to the value of respect)
Class Texts	<p>Bronze and Sunflower by Cao Wenxuan</p> <p>(Themes: Community, family, perseverance, effects of poverty, loneliness, power of education)</p> 
Reading	<p>Reading Domains</p> <p>2b – retrieve and record information/identify key details from fiction and non-fiction</p> <p>2e – predict what might happen from details stated and implied</p> <p>2d: Make inferences from the text/explain and justify inferences with evidence from the text</p> <p>In Reading, the children will be introduced to the new class text for the term and will begin by making predictions about what they think is going to happen.</p> <p>The children will then move onto retrieval, where we will be focussing on our comprehension skills and will explore the themes from the book. We will focus on looking at the choice of language used and the intended effect on the audience.</p> <p>Finally, in the last three weeks of the half term, we will look at inference, based on how characters are feeling. We will focus on how authors show how characters are feeling through their actions.</p>
Writing	<p>In Writing, the children will be writing a narrative based on the class text, they will use a range of descriptive language choices including speech, expanded noun phrases, similes and metaphors. In doing this, the children will learn how to engage the reader and create a descriptive image in the reader's mind.</p> <p>As the term continues, the children will be writing diary entries, these shall be linked to our class text and will teach the children how to write informally, in the first person. They will also teach the children how to write in a chatty style, speaking to the diary as if it was a friend/family member.</p>
Maths	<p>This term Year 5 will focus on place value, we will read and write numbers up to 1 million confidently, round numbers to the nearest 10, 100 and 1000 including decimal numbers. As well as this, the children will learn the formal methods of addition and subtraction as well as multiplication and division, this will involve solving real life problems and test style questions.</p>

Geography	In this unit, pupils will explore the world's major biomes, including tropical rainforests, deserts, tundra, grasslands, and temperate forests. They will learn how climate, location, and physical geography influence the characteristics of each biome, including the types of plants, animals, and human activities found there. Pupils will use maps, atlases, and digital resources to locate biomes globally and understand their distribution. Through case studies, they will investigate how biomes are affected by environmental changes such as deforestation and climate change. The unit encourages critical thinking about sustainability and the importance of protecting natural environments. Pupils will develop geographical vocabulary and enquiry skills, comparing biomes and drawing conclusions about the relationships between people and the environment.
Science	In this unit, pupils will develop a deeper understanding of our solar system and the relationship between the Earth, Moon, and Sun. They will learn about the planets, their movements, and key features, using models and diagrams to support their understanding. Pupils will explore how the Earth's rotation causes day and night, and how its orbit around the Sun leads to seasonal changes. They will investigate the phases of the Moon and understand how shadows change throughout the day. Through practical activities, observations, and secondary sources, pupils will develop scientific enquiry skills and use appropriate vocabulary to describe celestial phenomena. The unit encourages curiosity about space and builds foundational knowledge for future learning in physics. Pupils will also consider how scientific ideas about space have changed over time, linking to historical figures and discoveries.
Art	In this unit, pupils will explore the rich artistic heritage of Islamic civilisation, focusing on the intricate patterns, geometry, and symbolism found in Islamic art and architecture. They will study examples of decorative tiles, calligraphy, and carved motifs from historical Islamic cultures, developing an understanding of how art reflects cultural identity and religious beliefs. Pupils will apply this knowledge to design and create their own clay sculptures, incorporating repeating patterns, symmetry, and texture. They will learn and refine clay techniques such as coiling, carving, and joining, while experimenting with surface decoration and glazing. The unit encourages creativity, cultural appreciation, and attention to detail. Pupils will evaluate their own and others' work, using appropriate artistic vocabulary.
Music	This half term the topic is 'Livin' on a Prayer'. Children use Charanga during their music lessons.
Computing	During this half term, the topic is systems and searching. The children will develop their understanding of computer systems and how information is transferred between systems and devices.
PSHE	During this half term, the children will be looking at health and well-being. They will begin by looking at identity and what makes

	them unique. They will then look at stereotypes and how they can have a negative effect on someone.
RE	This half term we will focus on two topics: Caring for others, animals and then environment as well as Sharing and Being Generous. We will look at Hinduism, Sikhism, Christianity and Islam.
PE	Pupils will develop control, strength, and flexibility through gymnastics, creating sequences using balances, rolls, and jumps. In football, they will improve passing, dribbling, and shooting skills, while learning tactics and teamwork. Both activities promote physical fitness, coordination, and resilience. Pupils will evaluate performance and apply feedback to improve, building confidence and enjoyment in sport.

Information:

Homework Books

At the end of each week, your child will return home with their homework books in both English and Maths. They will be given two pages to complete based on the learning they have completed that week or the learning they will be doing the following week.

Please encourage your child to complete these to the best of their ability and return to school by Wednesday for them to be marked and any issues to be addressed.

Spellings

These are words your child will be using daily and will need to be familiar with. We will also be sending home words with your children that are key in Year 5 and 6.

Please encourage your child to practise their spellings at the weekend and across the course of the week, as they will be tested on these at the end of each week.

Reading:

At the end of each week, your child will also come home with a reading book.

Please encourage your child to read this book regularly and listen to them read when you can.

Within their reading diary, we ask that you please make a comment on how your child has read, whether they are enjoying their book or even any questions you may have asked them and discussed about their story.

Both the reading book and reading diary need to be returned to school by Thursday.

Knowledge Organisers:

Bronze and Sunflower

Sunflower has moved to the countryside in China with her father. As her father works all day, Sunflower feels lonely. She watches the river and the people across it who live in a village called Damaidi. She meets a boy called Bronze from Damaidi and the two become friends. When a tragic event brings Sunflower into Bronze's home, the two children must work together to survive the hardships of village life.

Author

Cao Wenxuan was born in a village called Longgang, in 1954. He is one of the most read and translated children's authors in China. *Bronze and Sunflower* has won various awards and Cao Wenxuan has written many books for children. In China, surnames are written first, so Cao is the author's surname. Helen Wang translated *Bronze and Sunflower* from Chinese into English. She has been translating books for a long time and has written and edited many books.

Historical context

Bronze and Sunflower is set in the late 1960s and early 1970s in rural China. The Cultural Revolution was happening, which was when a Chinese political leader called Mao Zedong wanted to promote communism (a system where the community, rather than individuals, owns property). Professional people who were used to working in offices were sent to labour camps in rural China called Cadre Schools. By the mid-1970s, the Cultural Revolution was over, and many people returned to cities.



Characters

Bronze

Bronze has been unable to speak since a fire when he was five. He doesn't attend school and finds it hard to interact with other children. He spends a lot of time alone, with his family or with their buffalo until he meets Sunflower.

Sunflower

Sunflower is a sweet, gentle child who is very lonely at the start of the book. When Bronze's family take her in, she feels like one of them. Sunflower loves learning and is keen to share what she has learned with Bronze.

Nainai

Nainai is Bronze's grandmother and immediately treats Sunflower like her grandchild. She is selfless and does whatever she can to earn money for the family, even though she is elderly and her health is fading.

Gayu

Gayu is a boy in the village who sometimes makes things difficult for Sunflower and Bronze. He accuses Bronze of a crime he has not committed and teases Sunflower. By the end of the book, his attitude towards them changes.

Themes

- community
- family
- perseverance
- effects of poverty
- loneliness
- power of education

Settings

Damaidi

Damaidi is a small village in China where Bronze lives with his family. The village has a strong sense of community, but it is not always easy to live there. The people are reliant on crops for their survival, and they work very hard to buy the things they need.



Bronze's family home

Bronze and his family welcome Sunflower into their home and treat her like Bronze's sister. The family are poor, but their home is full of love. Although they find it difficult to afford food and other necessities, they make sacrifices so that Sunflower can go to school.



The river

Sunflower is drawn to the river from the beginning of the book. It is described as a beautiful, peaceful place: *'She watched it flow, she followed the ripples and waves... watched the midday sun paint it gold and setting sun stain it red.'* The river is also a significant place because it is where Sunflower first meets Bronze.



Story timeline

These are some of the key chapters in the novel. When you read the chapters, use the questions as starting points for discussion. This book has long, unnumbered chapters that are split into sections.

A Little Wooden Boat

Sunflower spends a lot of time alone while her father is working until she meets Bronze. How are both children presented?

Plaited Reed Shoes

Bronze's family take Sunflower into their home. She fits in very well, but they realise they can't afford to send both children to school. Do you think they make the right decision? Why do you think that?

Golden Thatch

A natural disaster strikes Damaidi and the family's home. How do they respond to the tragedy?

A Plague of Locusts

Another hardship affects the village when a locust swarm destroys the crops. What are the consequences?

The Big Haystack

City people arrive and want to take Sunflower back with them. What do you think of the ending of the book?

Language

Bronze and Sunflower is written using a lyrical, descriptive style that evokes settings and characters in detail. It also uses figurative language effectively, such as similes. For example, the author uses a vivid simile to describe the devastation after a plague of locusts destroy a field: *'The locusts passed over like a barber's knife, razing everything to the ground.'*

Historical novel

Bronze and Sunflower is an example of historical fiction. It is set during a real time period, the Chinese Cultural Revolution, but many of the events and characters did not exist. The novel captures the relationship between village and city people at that time, as well as how difficult it was to live in the countryside and make a living.

Symbolism

At the beginning of the book, the reader learns that Sunflower's father used to make sunflowers from bronze: the two main characters that give their names to the book. Bronze is often used for sculptures because it can be sculpted in detail and withstand outdoor conditions. Bronze and Sunflower endure many hardships in the book, and their relationship offers strength and support to both characters.



Literary terms

figurative language

Figurative language is a word or phrase that has an imaginative meaning rather than a literal meaning. It is intended to describe something precisely to readers or evoke their senses. Similes and metaphors are examples of figurative language.

historical novel

Historical fiction stories take place at a real time in the past, but the events might not have really happened.

lyrical

A book is lyrical if it expresses emotions using beautiful, imaginative descriptions. For example, this vivid description describes the effect of the sun on Sunflower's father: *'As the golden sun filled the sky, casting its brightness far and wide, he felt intoxicated, invigorated, liberated.'*

simile

A simile compares one thing to another, often using like or as. For example, *'A gentle breeze blew past her, like softly flowing water.'*

symbolism

Symbolism is using a character, action, animal or object to represent qualities or ideas.



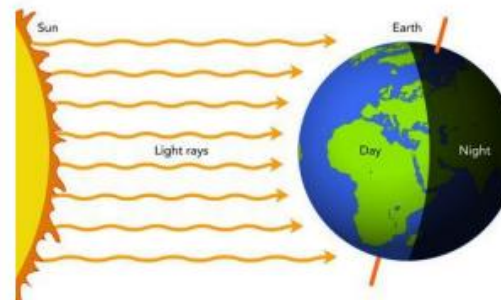
The planets are called Mercury, Venus, Earth, Mars, Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus and Neptune.

An easy way to remember the names of planets in order is:
My Very Easy Method Just Speeds Up Naming

The Moon **orbits** the Earth anti-clockwise and takes **approximately 28 days**. The Moon spins once on its axis every time it orbits Earth. This means that we only see one side of the Moon.
 The Moon has different phases depending on where it is in its **orbit**. At different times, the moon appears to be different shapes because the sun light up different parts of the moon as it moves around the Earth. The Moon's **gravity** causes high and low tides.

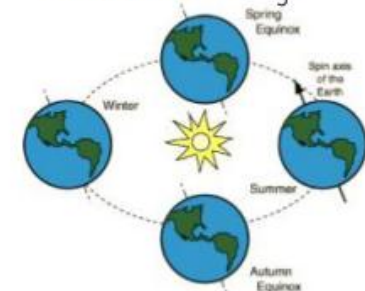


Day and night



Earth **rotates** on an **axis**. During the winter, the North Pole is tilted away from the Sun's rays. As Earth travels around the Sun, the tilt of Earth changes. By June, the North Pole is tilted towards the Sun and the days become very long. Earth takes a year to **orbit** the Sun and it is the tilt which creates the seasons.

The Earth **rotates** one complete turn **every 24 hours** to give us day and night. Daytime occurs when the side of the Earth is facing the sun and night occurs when the side of the Earth is facing away from the sun. When Britain faces the Sun it is daytime in Britain but the other side of the world is in darkness. So, in Australia it is the middle of the night.



It appears to us that the Sun moves across the sky during the day but the Sun does not move at all. It seems to us that the Sun moves because of the movement of the Earth.



Home Learning and Useful Links:

Reading:

[Oxford Owl for School and Home](#)

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zs44jxs/year/zhgppg8>

<https://schoolreadinglist.co.uk/category/reading-lists-for-ks2-school-pupils/>

Phonics:

<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/english-games/7-11-years/spelling-and-grammar>

[PhonicsPlay](#)

[Phase 2 Games – Letters and Sounds \(letters-and-sounds.com\)](#)

Writing:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/subjects/zv48q6f/year/zhgppg8>

<https://home.oxfordowl.co.uk/english/primary-writing/writing-year-5-age-9-10/>

[Spelling and Grammar, English Games for 7-11 Years - Topmarks](#)

Maths:

[Key Stage 2 Maths - Topmarks Search](#)

<https://www.timestables.co.uk/multiplication-tables-check/>

Science:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/subjects/z2pfb9q/year/zhgppg8>

[Home | WowScience - Science games and activities for kids](#)

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/z6wwxnb/articles/zdvhxbk>

History/Geography:

<https://www.theschoolrun.com/homework-help/shang-dynasty>

https://www.ducksters.com/history/china/shang_dynasty.php

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/z39j2hv>

Computing:

[Is my child safe online? Parent's questions answered | Barnardo's \(barnardos.org.uk\)](#)

[Parents and Carers - UK Safer Internet Centre](#)

[Parental Controls & Privacy Settings Guides | Internet Matters](#)

PSHE:

[Talk PANTS & Join Pantosaurus - The Underwear Rule | NSPCC](#)

[How to make an emergency 999 call – West Midlands Ambulance Service University NHS Foundation Trust \(wmas.nhs.uk\)](#)

PE:

[Nutrition Based Physical Activity Games - Action for Healthy Kids](#)

[Kids Active Learning & PE at Home – Think Active](#)