

## Upper Key Stage 2 Themes (these are taught over a 2 year period)

### Potions

Children will investigate materials and their properties (including reversible/irreversible changes, dissolving etc) in order to produce a new (cleaning) product based on market research within the local area. They will then apply their knowledge & understanding to fulfil the design brief in creating their product using organic products (home grown where possible) They will explore & evaluate packaging of existing products in order to create their own using ICT and then write, perform & film an advert for their product before finally generating a persuasive pitch to take to the 'Dragon's Den'.

### Walk Like an Egyptian

The unit will begin with the discovery of artefacts including clues about Howard Carter and his discoveries – children will develop lines of enquiry to identify what they are, time period etc as well as explore Ancient Egypt by locating on a map and looking at its human and physical features (incl. the role of the River Nile), placing the time in history (where and when the first civilisations appeared). Their enquiry should lead them to discover the lives of Ancient Egyptians, focussing on the hierarchy in their society and rules that were enforced, exploring Egyptian beliefs e.g. afterlife, mummification, gods. They will find out about everyday life using artefacts where possible and compare roles to today including farming and through technology explore how pyramids were built & tools that they can use to help. They will present their findings based on their discoveries & evidence from artefacts and other sources.

### May the Force be With You

This science and DT based theme is based on forces. Children will investigate how gravity, air resistance, water resistance and friction have an effect on objects and use databases and graphs to show their results. Children will look at forces in everyday life and their advantages and disadvantages and show this through the art unit – sculpture. Children will find out about scientists e.g. Galileo Galiee and Isaac Newton and their impact. Children will then apply what they have learnt about forces to investigate materials and how far their aeroplane will fly.

### A Traveller's Guide

The purpose of this theme is to create a 'Traveller's Guide' to another country (e.g. India, Mexico etc) applying their geography skills focusing on land use, time zones, economic activity etc as well as explaining how animals are adapted to the country/environment; identifying & costing the journey to the country. Art sessions will explore the technique of batik to create a

### Carnival of the Animals

Famous scientist Francis Halle & his team need help in relocating a rare plant (the pachypodium) – children will need to investigate the impact on the plant and eco system if this plant is to be moved; the conditions in which it will survive; how we can aid this by constructing a suitable container. They will need to explore soil types; how the plant will reproduce and the impact on the animals living in

### The Great Exhibition

This theme should place the Victorians and the Great Exhibition in history and identify the life and times of people living then. It should focus on the changes during the period and how they have influenced modern day. To fully engage with the Victorians children will get into character - exploring digital imaging; invent a new product to influence an aspect of life, recognise how diet &



<p>piece of clothing (Sari, skirt, t-shirt) using architecture &amp; pattern to inspire their work. The unit will culminate in a celebration afternoon with food cooked by the children using their home grown products (herbs, potatoes etc)</p>	<p>the rainforest and how they will need to adapt to the environment – evolving over time. They will need to present their findings to the scientist and his team making suitable recommendations based on evidence. Children will observe a wide variety of plants, make drawings and apply art skills to a composition of plants to represent a section of the rainforest.</p>	<p>medicine has changed over time &amp; the impact of this, as well as analyse and interpret statistics from the period.</p>
<h3 style="text-align: center;">Mission Impossible</h3> <p>Through scientific enquiry children will explore light &amp; electricity and how we see, discovering light travels in straight lines and how the brightness of a bulb can be changed. They will apply this knowledge to create a security device to protect ‘the crown jewels’, exploring sequences through coding &amp; building structures – this will be set in context with the class text. Children will also explore light within drawing, exploring shadows and light and dark.</p>	<h3 style="text-align: center;">Meet the Greeks</h3> <p>During this theme a range of sources of information will be explored to investigate and draw conclusions about life during the Ancient Greek period with a particular focus on everyday life, achievements &amp; influences on modern day. Children will make comparisons between then and now and how we use those Greek ideas today, focusing on the work of famous Greeks (Archimedes, Pythagoras, Hippocrates). Children will explore Greek myths and write their own to create a pop-up book for a younger audience.</p>	<h3 style="text-align: center;">Socially Speaking</h3> <p>Through the exploration of the Mayan civilisation children will learn about the organised roles of different groups of people in Mayan society, such as kings, nobles, merchants and slaves as well as focusing on religion (including Maya gods, beliefs, rites and rituals including bloodletting, human sacrifice and afterlife). They will compare everyday life for the Mayans within these different social roles e.g. homes, food, clothes, trade, education (including reading and writing), relating their understanding of this civilisation to democracy &amp; British Values and how these have changed through time. Through their explorations they will locate Mayan Cities and where ruins were discovered (Mesoamerica), discussing what they know about the Maya and the buildings from the drawings of Frederick Catherwood – an explorer, as well as other buildings such as Chichen Itza. Through discussion &amp; debate the implications of the Spanish conquest will be explored, identifying and evaluating the positive and negative effects on the Mayan people and the fall of the civilisation</p>



		whilst recognising their achievements, including the number system, calendar, chocolate.
<h3 style="text-align: center;">Go With The Flow</h3> <p>This theme is based on field work, exploring rivers and their features, including the water cycle. Children will identify rivers and the countries that they are in using maps and atlases, they will identify the river Lin &amp; how this has changed over time making comparisons &amp; reasoning using their understanding, as well as creating a 3D map to represent the area. They will explore the processed of a river and relate to scientific knowledge &amp; understanding of the water cycle, as well as the factors that affect flooding through looking at climate change and the environment. They will present their river study (information collected when there: cross section, sketches, depth, erosion and temperature). Children will also observe &amp; draw objects that can be found around the river and use these to inform their printing.</p>	<h3 style="text-align: center;">. To Infinity and Beyond</h3> <p>To Infinity &amp; Beyond allows the children to develop knowledge of the history of the solar system &amp; relate this to scientific discoveries, building links with the space centre in Leicester through computing – using this safely. Children will explore the relationship between the Earth, sun and moon - describing their movement and developing a good understanding of day &amp; night, relating this to time zones. They will present some of their findings using ICT, their art skills &amp; digital imaging techniques, as well as use their knowledge &amp; understanding of materials to consider how they would build a shelter to survive on another planet.</p>	<h3 style="text-align: center;">Sporting Heroes</h3> <p>Sporting Heroes focuses on the human body, recapping body parts and introducing the circulatory system and its functions, creating timelines about growth &amp; focussing on puberty (linking closely with the changes unit) Through looking at their own sporting heroes (linking to the Olympics, the World Cup or Wimbledon) children should then focus on how to keep healthy, looking at nutrition and exercise – linking it to scientists and scientific research. They will design &amp; create a healthy snack &amp; use computing to develop a health programme.</p>

