



Treetop Explorers

Reception:

Essential Knowledge

By the end of this topic children will:

- Broaden experiences to use writing for different purposes.
- Be familiar with a range of traditional fairytales.
- Focus on how we and others feel and the reasons why.
- Explore the way we and others live their lives.
- Manipulate different materials for a planned effect.
- Talk about different celebrations

Sensational Start

Children follow a trail into the woods and discover a magical surprise.

Extraordinary Extra

To make and decorate gingerbread men.

Fabulous Finish

Fairytale afternoon tea party.

Key Dates:

16.01.2026- PE Lessons Start
29.01.2026- Fundraising Cake and bric-a-brac sale

-Theme Content-Curriculum links

Literacy. Communication and Language

The children will explore different stories and begin to write about them. They will begin to retell different events that happen in stories. The children will be encouraged to learn the repeated refrains from traditional fairy tales. During our Drawing Club sessions, the children will write Level 3 sounds, VC words and CVC words. They will begin to write short captions based around the books we have read together.

Key Texts -

Hansel and Gretel
Little Red Riding Hood
The Gingerbread Man
The Three Little Pigs
Goldilocks
Jack and Beanstalk

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

The children will talk about their experiences of Christmas and how they are similar/different to each other. We will discuss and remind each other of our classroom rules. The children will talk about why it is important to work as a team and the importance of good listening. We will discuss different feelings and how and why you might be feeling different ways. The children will talk about our likes and dislikes. We will talk about ways we can keep safe around water (with references to Bedford and its river!)



Understanding the World

The children will explore different celebrations. We will explore what different people believe and the difference this makes to how they live their lives. We will investigate different materials and sort different objects into the correct groups. We will continue to talk about how stay safe online.



Physical Development

The children will build up a repertoire of songs and simple dances. They will be given the opportunity to perform their dances in front of their friends. We will continue to expose the children to various fine motor activities throughout the half term. Our PE sessions will begin this half term. The children will think about different ways to move and will explore the space in the school hall.

-Theme Content-Curriculum links

Expressive Arts and Design

The children will use their imagination to paint their favourite book characters. They will use their cooking skills to design and make a gingerbread man. We will think about media that we can use to create artwork and will use vegetables to create pictures. We will be using our bodies to explore music and thinking of ways we can make sounds with our bodies. The children will take part in a Chinese dance Workshop.



Maths

We will be following the White Rose Maths scheme and the children will be continuing to subitise numbers. They will be comparing mass and capacity and will be deepening their understanding of the composition of different numbers. We will be discussing length, height and time.



Outdoor Learning Sessions

The children will compare similarities and differences between different natural objects. The children will complete some tree and leaf rubbing pictures.

