

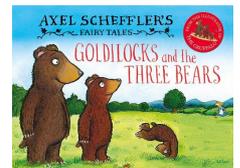
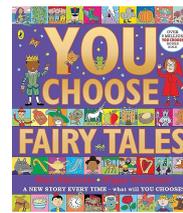
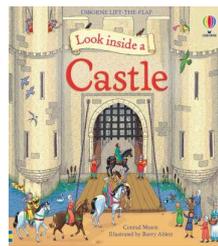
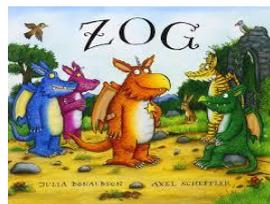
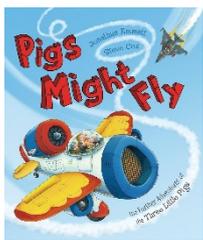
# Once upon a time...

Dear Oak Class Families,

We really hope you have a wonderful half-term break, and look forward to seeing the children back, rested and ready to learn. Our topic next term is 'Once Upon a Time'. We will be spending time learning about all different stories, from familiar traditional tales, to stories from around the world. We will also explore castles, knights, kings and queens, dragons and a magical creatures.

As part of this topic, we will look at many fiction and non-fiction texts and will be writing letters, posters and our own stories. In science, we will be exploring different materials and how things are made, including the houses of the 'Three Little Pigs', constructing and investigating the material properties. Towards the end of term, we will also enjoy a 'Royal Banquet', where the children can come in dressed up as a member of the castle, to enjoy a day of fun activities, crafts and of course, a banquet fit for royalty! More details of this will follow in the next few weeks.

Some of the texts we will be looking at are:



We would also love to share the children's favourite stories in class, so please do bring in any stories/let me know, and we can read these together.

## Home Learning

<p><b>Reading</b></p>	<p>Reading books will continue to be changed on a Monday. Please read with your child regularly, even if it is just for 5 minutes. At this point in the year, we are looking towards increasing the children's fluency with reading. Please add any reads to <a href="#">BoomReader</a>.</p> <p>Phase 2 and 3 Phonics is complete. We are now moving onto Phase 4 - which includes spelling rules, longer words and more tricky words. Please practice tricky words as much as you can at home.</p>
<p><b>Writing</b></p>	<p>A key part of EYFS is forming 'recognisable letters' with a comfortable grip. Please encourage them to write in as many contexts as possible at home (cards to relatives/friends, shopping lists, signs around the house).</p> <p>Frequent drawing, puzzles, using play dough, and cutting with scissors also aid their writing skills, as it develops the strength and precision in their hands.</p>

<b>Maths</b>	The most important thing for children in their reception year is that they can read, write, order and recognise numbers to 10. This can be engaged at home in play, cooking,
<b>Topic</b>	Here are some ideas of how to engage with our 'Once Upon a Time' topic at home: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reading fairy tales and guessing what might happen next.</li> <li>• Using familiar phrases from stories in their play (e.g. I'll huff and I'll puff and...)</li> <li>• Visiting a castle.</li> <li>• Dressing up and role-playing.</li> <li>• Experimenting with materials through building and crafting.</li> <li>• Building small worlds with figurines to develop storylines in their play.</li> <li>• Exploring the outdoors and imagining what magical creatures could be nearby!</li> <li>• Drawing story maps of their own stories.</li> <li>• Create picture maps of the journeys you have been on, and discuss what happened first, then and last.</li> </ul>

Key questions to ask your child about their learning:

Who lived in a castle?

How is living in a castle different to living in a house?

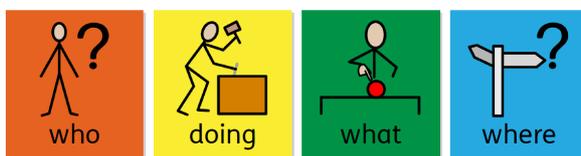
Who worked in a castle?

What job would you like to have done in the castle?

What is the structure of the story?

Who are the main characters? Where is the story set?

What happened in the story? First? Then? Finally?



### Quick Reminders

- Please can you make sure your child brings in a named water bottle and their book bags each day. They must also always have a coat, even if it is sunny first thing in the morning.
- If you would like to provide a snack for your child, this must be fruit/a healthy alternative. We have fruit available for them each day, this is just if they prefer something from home!
- Outdoor learning will happen throughout the term for our class, so please have their kits at school at all times. We will look after it (unless it needs a wash) until the end of term.
- Show and tell is every Thursday – please do not allow them to bring toys as we can't be responsible for the loss/damage of these.
- PE is still every Wednesday.

Thank you for your support,

Miss Taylor, Ms Eldridge and Miss Waterman