

# ‘What makes animals unique?’

Year 1 and 2

Newsletter Term 3 2025-2026

Dear Families,

Happy New Year! We hope you had a restful and jolly Christmas break.

We are very excited that our new topic will be *What makes animals unique?*

We will be learning about different animals **what** they are like and **where** they live. We will also be identifying characteristics of animals and grouping these accordingly.

## Helping to enrich our topics

We are planning to go to Drusillas with Rabbit Class this term, to explore how animals live in different habitats, as well as learning how to group mammals and fish according to their characteristics. We will be going to Drusilla soon **Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> February**.

Our Forest School Day this term will be **Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> January**.

## Resources for this term:

**Computing:** small plastic bottles and decorative materials such as foil, plastic packaging and paper of different colours (for making rockets)

**Science:** any old animal toys your children do not use at home. Any brown shades of play doh.

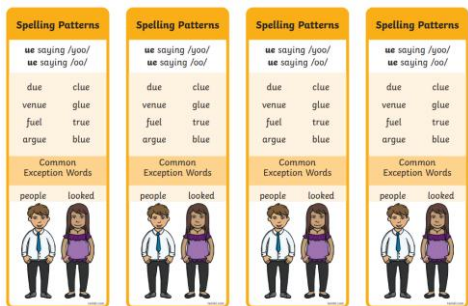
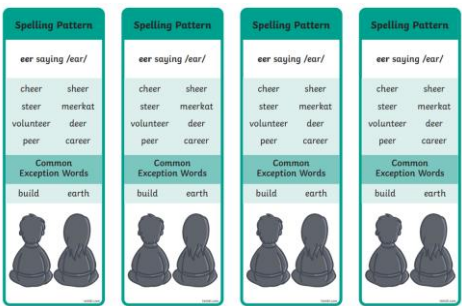
## Useful information and reminders:

- Please can you make sure your child brings in a **water bottle** and their **reading books/book bag** each day. We use their books daily so these need to be placed in a box as they come into the classroom.
- The children will need a **named coat, hat and gloves** in school as the weather starts to get colder and wetter.
- Our PE days are **Mondays and Wednesdays** so please send your child into school in their PE on these days.

## 'What makes animals unique?'

Literacy	Poetry	Instructions		Non-fiction writing
	<div>Snake Snake. Sneaky snake. Sneaky snake slithering. Sneaky snake slithering slyly. Sneaky snake slithering slyly, stopping. Sneaky snake slithering slyly, stopping to stun. Sneaky snake slithering slyly, seething. Sneaky snake slithering slowly. Sneaky snake swerving. Sneaky snake. Ssssssnake.</div>			
Maths	Addition and subtraction		Multiplication and division	
Science	Animals	Scientific enquiry	Observing	Recording
How do I group animals?				
Geography	Maps	Why are animals different around the world?		Animals
Music	Music inspired by animals and exploring percussion			
ICT	Skills Showcase	Kapow Primary		Rocket to the moon
	<div>Writing program - Rocket materials.txt File Save Print Copy Cut Font Clipart</div>			
PSHE	Staying safe	Keeping safe		SAFETY FIRST
DT		Clay models of animals		
RE		Who is a Muslim and how do they live?		

## Home Learning

<p><b>Reading</b></p>	<p>Please read with your child <b>at least three times a week</b>, even if it is just for 5 minutes. When reading with your child, please acknowledge the fact that the book has been read by <b>recording this on Boom Reader. If you need a reminder of your Boom Reader Log in then ask Miss Debenham.</b></p> <p>During reading sessions, please discuss the story with your child and ask them questions about what they are reading. These questions will help to develop their understanding of what they are reading as comprehension and discussion are key reading skills in Year 1 and 2. Hedgehogs are encouraged to change their books regularly, please can you help remind your child when their books need changing.</p>
<p><b>Phonics</b></p>	<p>As for last term, for both Year 1 and Year 2, please continue to support with phonics via the phonemes and Common Exception Words on their weekly bookmark.</p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; align-items: flex-start;"> <div style="text-align: center;"> <p>Year 1 – Level 5</p>  </div> <div style="text-align: center;"> <p>Year 2 – Level 6</p>  </div> </div> <p>If your child needs to revise any phonemes or Common Exception Words, we will work on these in school and send them home in their Phonics Books so you can support at home too.</p>
<p><b>Maths</b></p>	<p>For Maths homework please work through the weekly Maths activities on the set work in your child's CPG book. You can work through these at a pace that works for your child. I will be giving our 1 star each Friday for each weekly challenge completed.</p>

### Snacks:

Just a quick reminder that the school does provide a healthy snack each day for the children. However, if you would prefer to send your child in with their own snack, please ensure it is a **healthy snack**.

We hope you all have lovely term supporting the children in their learning. Please do not hesitate to come and speak to us if you have any questions.

Thank you for your support.

Miss Debenham