

During this half term our enquiry is:

What makes a structure strong?

We will become engineers and architects and use all of our knowledge on shape and materials to design and build a bridge to carry a given weight. We will look at structures around the world to identify what makes them strong. We will also carry out a number of investigations in science to discover what the strongest shape is and test materials. We will showcase our learning by taking part in The Architect of the Year Competition where parents and guardians will be invited to attend at the end of the Spring term.

Subject	Activities / areas to be covered in school	Possible learning at home
English	<p>Over the next half term we are going to read a number of interesting texts. Firstly we cover The Building Boy. This is a story all about a little boy that has a wonderful bond with his Grandma. We explore different vocabulary and we practise answering a range of different styled retrieval and inference questions. In addition, we are going to read the Dragon Machine. This is another exciting book that encourages the children to compare the two texts. We are going to develop our description skills using extended noun phrases. We are then going to explore a range of non-fiction texts</p> <p>Reading focus on inference and prediction skills. Skills focus- adjectives, conjunctions (and, but, or, because, when, if), different types of sentences- commands and questions, looking at verbs in different forms. Text Level- Writing their own description of the Dragon Machine.</p>	<p>Continue to explore different texts fiction and non-fiction. Visit the library. Write a book review about some of the books you are reading at home. Continue to practise spelling common exception words and high frequency words.</p> <p>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JOR0cYEdI9U- verbs, adjective and nouns. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=n_foMADqjSc statement, command, question, exclamation sentences.</p>
Maths	<p>This half term we will be learning about fractions. We will begin by recapping equal and unequal groups, investigating the different ways that quantities and shapes can be split into groups. We will then move on to recognising and finding half, quarter, three quarters and one third.</p> <p>We will then develop our understanding of basic statistics. We will teach the children how to interpret pictograms. This will be done through practical activities.</p> <p>Continuing to work on mental addition, subtraction, multiplication and division.</p>	<p>Talk about fractions when cutting up sandwiches, cakes etc. Make playdough and cut them into different fractions. Share sweets etc between 2 or 4 people and talk about what fraction of the amount each person gets.</p> <p>Continue to practise number facts using Numbots at home.</p>

Computing	We will use the ICT programme Paint 3D. We will learn how to use this programme and then design our bridges on it before making them in DT.	Explore using any paint or drawing programmes.
Physical Education	Indoor: Dance Outdoor: Mini Tennis	
Music	The children will be introduced to a composer called Gustav Holst and learn how to recognise some basic elements of music. Whilst learning to use the appropriate musical vocabulary when describing a piece of music. The children will also be developing knowledge and understanding of dynamics, timbre, tempo and instruments. Within the music lessons children will also practise their singing. Our song focus will be 'give it all you've got'.	Listen to a wide range of music; to develop an understanding of different sounds. Listen to different instruments and begin to name them.
Art	The children will be introduced to an artist called Wassily Kandinsky and learn how music inspired his art work. The children will explore how we can make art inspired by the sounds we hear.	Listen to different sounds at home and let it inspire you to be creative. What is the connection between art and music? How can one inspire the other?
PSHCE	This half term the children will be learning how to stay safe. This includes road and cycle safety, fire and water safety as well as looking at substances around the home. They will learn about what a hazard is, how to spot them and who tell if they feel they or others are in danger. We will also cover internet safety so children know the importance of staying safe online.	Create a poster on one of the safety areas. Spot hazards around the home and tell an adult.
Geography	Locating structures in the 4 parts of the UK and around the world. Looking at the continent that the countries belong to. This will be linked to structures and bridges around the world and our local area.	Look at a map of the UK and identify England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland. Can they name the continents on a map of the world?
History	We will look at a significant individual who contributed to National Achievements- Isambard Kingdom Brunel – We will talk about what aspects of Brunel's character made him successful and a significant historical character to study. We will also learn about Emily Warren Roebling, an inspirational woman who helped to complete the Brooklyn Bridge.	Research any structures that Brunel designed. Create a PowerPoint about Emily Warren Roebling.



DT/ Science	<p>We will begin by looking at the suitability of materials and discussing why we have different materials for different purposes.</p> <p>We will find out which structure is the strongest by carrying out investigations using different shapes and materials.</p> <p>We will be looking at changing materials and the rigidity of different materials.</p> <p>We will use our knowledge to design and build a bridge to enter into 'The Architect of the Year Competition'. In DT children will learn to safely saw wood and apply their joining skills from last half term. Children will work together to build a bridge which will then be tested to see if it is strong enough to hold a given weight.</p>	<p>Look at different spoons at home (metal, plastic, wooden) and think about which spoon you would use for baking, mixing hot food, taking on a picnic. Why?</p> <p>Look at things in the home and what they are made of. Could they be made out of something else?</p> <p>Look at different buildings when you are out and talk about how they have been built. Do they have anything in common?</p> <p>Visit local structures- The Brick Train, The Transporter Bridge and Angel of the North.</p>
RE	<p>We will be learning about celebrations in general and then we will look at the celebration of Easter. We will explore Passover and its significance. We will then look at Holy week and explore what this means to Christians.</p>	<p>Talk about what you do at Easter and read the Easter story.</p>