

Plan: Wordsmith Year 4

Autumn Term

Unit	Unit summary	Grammar lessons
Non-fiction Unit 4.1 <i>Wanted: Space Explorer!</i>	In this unit, the children select applicants to be trained as astronauts for a mission to Mars. They read about Neil Armstrong in the interactive eBook, using the eBook's features to find out about Neil Armstrong's personal qualities. They focus on effective use of pronouns and fronted adverbials, and use these in their writing tasks: to write a diary entry and a biography.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adverbials of Place and Revising Fronted Adverbials • Adverbials of Time – Fronted Adverbials • Determiners • Introducing Possessive Pronouns • Revising Capital Letters
Unit	Summary	Grammar Lessons
Fiction Unit 4.1 <i>Christophe's Story</i>	The children start by listening to <i>Christophe's Story</i> , responding to questions that stretch their comprehension and questioning skills. They use discussion, drama and role play to understand more about the characters. They look at the author's use of language: her choice of memorable words and phrases. Children draw on their understanding conjunctions, adverbs and prepositions to express time and cause to tell their own oral recounts, and then turn these into written recounts. Children use a letter as a model to write their own, applying their ability to write multi-clause sentences. Children repeat the same task for a book blurb, if required. In the main writing task, children write their own stories, drawing on their own personal experiences and a shared model text	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Determiners • Revising Conjunctions and Clauses • Revising Nouns
Unit	Summary	Grammar Lessons
Live Unit 4.1 <i>Sounds Spooky...</i>	The children are introduced to the idea of an audio story or podcast. As a class, they listen to a spooky story podcast in three episodes, asking questions and listening out for sound effects to develop their listening and comprehension skills. They focus on the use of language and the way it is used in conjunction with the narrator's voice and sound effects to create atmosphere and character. After some teacher modelling they practise brainstorming and planning a story as a class. They then build on this experience to plan and write their own three-episode spooky story podcasts in groups. Time is given at the end of the unit for the children to practise reading their stories aloud and incorporate sound effects. The podcasts are then recorded or performed so that they can be shared more widely.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introducing Direct Speech • Standard and Non-standard Verbs

Unit	Summary	Grammar Lessons
Poetry Unit 4.1 <i>Creating Images</i>	The children enjoy the range of poems in the unit and discuss and explore their uses of figurative language. They learn and revise metaphor, simile and personification and then identify the features of free verse, haiku and performance poetry. Finally they draft and write their own poems using ones from the unit as models.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Noun Phrases

Spring Term

Unit	Unit summary	Grammar lessons
Non-fiction Unit 4.2 <i>The Most Incredible Sport</i>	In this unit, the children explore the Big Question: What is the world's most incredible sport? They read the interactive eBook, finding information and distinguishing between fact and opinion. They answer the big question, planning and writing their own newspaper report.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Comparative and Superlative Multi-clause Sentences
Unit	Summary	Grammar Lessons
Word Detectives Year 4	It's Word Detectives week! Children take on the role of word detectives to investigate spelling patterns and generate their own spelling rules.	Select from the bank of resources according to the needs of your class.
Unit	Summary	Grammar Lessons
Live Unit 4.2 <i>The Spiderwick Chronicles</i>	In this unit, the children explore fantasy fiction. They read the interactive eBook, asking questions and developing understanding of inference. They use drama to explore characters and suspense. They develop editing and proof-reading skills. They plan, edit and write a new episode of the fantasy story they have studied.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Using Commas with Fronted Adverbials
Unit	Summary	Grammar Lessons
Poetry Unit 4.2 <i>Exploring Poetic Form</i>	In this unit, the children enjoy listening and responding to a range of poetry, exploring and comparing the work of two poets. They learn about poems including kennings and raps, exploring the meaning and form of poems written in a Caribbean dialect. They compose class and individual poems based on familiar fairy tales, editing and improving their work as part of the process.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Apostrophes to Show possession Plural and Possessive '-s'



Summer Term

Unit	Unit summary	Grammar lessons
Non-fiction Unit 4.3 <i>The Shang Dynasty of Ancient China</i>	In this unit, the children explore the Big Question: Did the Shang Dynasty really exist? They read the interactive eBook, retrieving and collating information about China. They explore historical evidence and timelines, answering questions and considering what information is true and relevant. They answer the Big Question, planning and writing a non-chronological report.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Apostrophes to show possession 2 • Nouns and pronouns • Pronouns • Singular and plural agreement
Unit	Summary	Grammar Lessons
Fiction Unit 4.3 <i>The Iron Man</i>	The children start by listening to <i>The Iron Man</i> , asking and answering questions and making predictions. They look at the author's use of powerful language to capture our imaginations, including similes. They revise their knowledge of speech marks, composing a conversation, and focus on the character Hogarth's feelings to write diary entries in role. For the final writing task, they create their own imaginary creature, thinking of similes and powerful noun phrases to describe it, and write a story about what happens when it encounters humans.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Noun Phrases • Punctuating direct speech
Unit	Unit summary	Grammar lessons
Poetry Unit 4.3 <i>Exploring Poetic Language</i>	In this unit, the children explore a range of poems, focusing in depth on the work of two poets. They plan, rehearse and perform a choral reading of a poem. They learn about personification, simile and metaphor, including these in their poems. They explore the patterns of rhyme and rhythm in shape and syllabic poems, reading cinquains and then creating their own. They watch and evaluate performances, and their mind map descriptions and stories are used to create poems.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Standard and Non-Standard Verbs
Unit	Summary	Grammar Lessons
Live Unit 4.2 The <i>Grand Tour</i>	The children are introduced to the main idea of the unit: that they will create an informative and interesting tour of their school. As a class they identify the key components of a tour, research interesting points of history related to their school and explore a range of presentation techniques, including face-to-face and virtual tours. The children create a short history leaflet about their school, and work as a team to create a comprehensive, interactive tour that can be placed on the school website or shown on a screen in the entrance hall (or presented as a mini-book), using photos, text, audio recordings and video clips. If the school already has an interactive tour, this unit could be adapted to	Select from the bank of resources according to the needs of your class.

	create a tour of a specific area of the school, the school grounds or part of the local area.	
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