

Year 4 Learning Web

Spring 2 2018
**The Wolves of
Currumpaw**

English Focus

- This half term our focus text will be **The Wolves of Currumpaw** by William Grill. This beautifully illustrated modern re-telling of Ernest Thompson Seton's epic wilderness drama, **Lobo**, will inspire our own creative writing.
- We will also be using a French animation of Peter and the Wolf to experiment with a range of new sentence structures.
- In line with our wolf theme, we will be looking at a range of traditional tales which feature this often-feared creature. We will then be twisting the conventions of these tales to make them far less traditional!
- For our poetry focus, we will be considering how the wolf is portrayed in a variety of poems.

Numeracy Focus

Key Areas of Learning:

- Fractions - equivalent fractions, ordering fractions, adding and subtracting fractions
- Compact written method of column addition and subtraction (in the context of) multi-step problems
- Perimeter
- Times tables up to 12 x 12 and related division facts

Creativity

- In **Art**, we will have two focus artists. The first will be Georgia O'Keeffe and her paintings of the great plains of New Mexico. We will also be introduced to photographer Arnold Newman and his 'environmental portraits'.
- In **Music**, we will be focusing on music appreciation. We will be listening to Sergei Prokofiev's Peter and the Wolf and thinking about how the pitch, tempo and volume develop throughout the story. We will also be comparing this composition with Sergei Prokofiev's Dance of the Knights.
- In **Computing**, we will be continuing our focus on coding and how to control a simple system with inputs and outputs.
- In **Spanish**, we will be adding more phrases to our growing Spanish vocabulary. This will include saying if we have any pets and how many brothers or sisters we have. We will also be learning how to say where we live and to name places around town.

STEM (including Computing and Science) and Health and Wellbeing

Learning challenge: Classification of living things / food chains

We will be thinking about ways in which we can group living things, in particular the classification of vertebrates and invertebrates. We will also be studying food chains and the position of consumers, producers, predators and prey within these chains.

Knowledge and Understanding

- In **RE**, our focus will be Christian worship and prayer, which will include looking at the Bible in more detail and understanding its significance to the Christian faith.
- In **Geography** and **History**, we will be looking at the human and physical geography of New Mexico (past and present) which forms the setting of **The Wolves of Currumpaw**. We will also be considering changes since the writing of the original book in 1898.
- Our **PE** focus will be **gymnastics**. We will be working on our balance, linking movements, jumps and leaps to create our own sequence to music by the end of the unit.

Ways you can help at home...

- Read little and often each day. We will be reading for meaning and understanding. Ask lots of questions about the text and encourage the children to form opinions. Please sign reading records showing your child's reading as we like to positively acknowledge readers in class.
- In Year 4, it is very important that we know all of our times tables up to 12 x 12 and the corresponding division facts. Please support your child in practising these whenever possible in order to help them move up the 99 Club.
- **Help your child to tell the time by asking them to read an analogue clock at various intervals throughout the day.**
- Encourage children to complete their homework and hand it in on time.