



Jewell Academy
an Aspirations Academy



Year R: Spring 1



Another time, another place

Driving Question: As archaeologists, how do we know that dinosaurs existed?

Launch:

We will launch our new topic by finding a mystery object. The children will be given clues to solve and will make predictions about what will happen.

This half term will be such an adventure! We will be thinking about what the world was like a long time ago and how it has changed. We will also look closely at different pictures of the past, as well as exploring some fossils and other artefacts.

The Sharks and Turtles will also experience a visit from the 'Dino dome' which will enable us to experience the size and scale of dinosaurs, and learn interesting facts about them. We can't wait!



People, Culture and Communities
Valentine's Day and Lunar New Year.

Natural World
We will be exploring the difference between herbivores and carnivores.

Expressive Art and Design

We will be using junk modelling to create our own dinosaurs.

Literacy

We will be learning Phase 3 Phonics and continuing to ask and answer questions about what we have read.

Vocabulary:

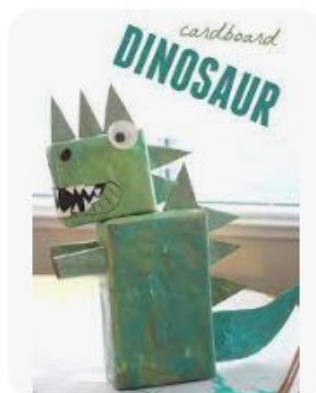
herbivore
carnivore
omnivore
Habitat
Fossil
prehistoric

Learning conversations to have at home:

What does 3D mean? What could you use to make a 3D dinosaur? How will you join it together? What would your dinosaur eat and how do you know?

An example of something that is 3D is a cube like a dice from a game. There are lots of recyclable materials such as cereal boxes or kitchen roll tubes that can be used for junk modelling.

There were many different types of dinosaur, some that ate meat (carnivores) and some that ate plants (herbivores).



Topic Home learning:

This half term we would love the children to have fun making a 3D dinosaur at home. This can be any size and made from any 'junk' or recycling materials you might have. Please bring your creation to school by Monday 5th February 2024.

Future Careers:

We will be visited by a paleontologist who will share their fossils and findings with us. We will experience the awe and wonder of astronomy during our visit from Wonderdome.

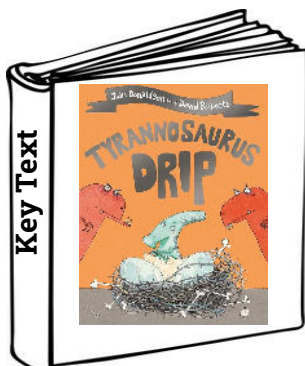
Landing:

Children will work together in small groups and as classes to create a presentation of their discoveries.

Reading: This half term we will be sharing a variety of books and poems including Tyrannosaurus Drip by Julia Donaldson, Dinosaurs Love Underpants by Claire Freedman, Beegu by Alexis Deacon and Whatever Next by Jill Murphy. We will continue to practise retelling and sequencing, answering and asking questions about what we have read.

What is his name? What does it tell us about her?

What do you think Tyrannosaurus Drip is trying to say in the story?



How do the duckbill dinosaurs in the story feel? How do you know?

How do you think Tyrannosaurus Drip is feeling? How do you know?

English

- ★ Writing and recognising my name
- ★ Use knowledge of Phase 2 phonics to read and write.
- ★ Write simple captions, phrases and lists

How can you help at home?

- Encourage children to practice writing with a purpose eg: list, postcard or recipe.
- Encourage children to write and spell words using sounds they know.

Maths

We will be starting to look closely at number 5 and beyond as well as introducing the children to zero.

We will also be comparing mass and capacity in lots of exciting ways linked to our topic work.

How can you help at home?

Support and encourage mathematical vocabulary related to number, shape and size. Ask questions such as, "How many can you find?" "How many is one more?" "How many is one less?"

Communication and Language We will be continuing to practise asking and answering simple questions using what and where. We will also start to consider 'why' we think something has happened.

Expressive Art and Design We will be creating pictures and paintings by looking closely at footprints and how they vary. We will also be using junk modelling to create our dinosaur habitats. We will have to think closely about shapes, colours and how to join the pieces!

Physical Development

We will continue to work on our fine motor skills. We will also enjoy developing our movement skills by tackling lots of challenges linked to balance and agility.

Understanding the World We will develop our understanding of life cycles by considering eggs and hatching. We will also learn about habitats and the different diets of omnivores, carnivores and herbivores.

Dates for the diary

Tuesday 2nd January-INSET day
Friday 5th January – Visit from Dino Dome.

Personal, Social and Emotional Development.

This half term our focus will be 'Dreams and Goals' Children will learn to set a goal and work towards it and will understand some ways we can encourage ourselves and others to keep trying when we are faced with difficulties.

