

Y5 Beyond Britain.2 Learning Sequence

Synopsis: Children carry out an in-depth study of Benin civilisation AD900-1300, exploring different aspects of social history and making contrasts with British history. In English, they write their own narrative, interweaving character, setting and plot.

In **Science**, children learn about how humans change over time.

In **History**, children select and organise relevant information, explaining contrasting arguments.

In **Art**, children develop printing skills to create a representation of Benin society.

In **D&T**, children prepare and cook a variety of dishes, drawing on West African culture.

In **Computing**, children use a range of search engines and are discerning about the results.

Curriculum areas: English, Science, History, Art, D&T and Computing

Length of theme: 6 weeks

English

Write a narrative, interweaving character, setting and plot.

English Objectives

Comprehension

- Infer characters' feelings, thoughts and motives and justify using evidence
- Predict what might happen from details stated and implied
- Discuss books, building on others' ideas and begin to challenge others' opinions

Grammar & Punctuation

- Build cohesion within a paragraph
- Link ideas across paragraphs using adverbials of time, place and number or by varying tense
- Use expanded noun phrases for accuracy
- Use relative clauses with relative pronouns

Language & Vocabulary

- Develop characters, setting and atmosphere using language and vocabulary from reading books

English Learning Sequence

- Use narrative texts that interweaves character, setting and plot eg *Chike and the River*
- Predict what might happen from the title and front cover, then read the blurb – were their ideas correct? Stop at various points in the story to predict what might happen next and what a specific character is likely to say or do
- Children read excerpts from texts that exemplify character. How does the author 'paint' characters?
- Discuss character, setting and plot. What does the writer tell us and what can we infer from the text – justify answers with examples from the text
- Build on each other's ideas and challenge them if you hold a different point of view
- Magpie chosen words and phrases, focusing on ambitious language/meanings of new words

- Integrate dialogue to advance action and convey character

Text Structure & Features

- In fiction, consider how authors develop character and setting

Plan, Draft, Edit & Evaluate

- Use dictionaries to check the spelling and meaning of words
- Identify audience and purpose of writing
- Note and develop initial ideas drawing from reading
- Select appropriate grammar and punctuation and understand how these can change/enhance meaning
- Assess effectiveness of own and others' writing
- Propose changes to grammar, punctuation and vocabulary to enhance meaning/effectiveness

In addition to the above, teachers should apply general spelling rules and guidance, as listed in [English Appendix 1](#) and ensure concepts and skills outlined in [English Appendix 2](#) are also addressed.

- Character study of main characters, applying expanded noun phrases to describe appearance and character
- Move on to Show Not Tell – how can we convey character by how they move/talk? What kinds of things might they say? Act out using charades
- Rehearse relative clauses to add more information about preceding noun
- Rehearse and embed conventions of direct speech, encouraging children to use more effective synonyms of said and adding adverbials for precision eg “*Get me out of here now!*” she shrieked, stamping her feet furiously and banging her fists on the wall.
- Explain that children are going to write a missing scene from the chosen text. Mind map ideas and collect images as a stimulus
- Plan scene considering how to convey characters (including through dialogue)
- Edit and redraft to produce final piece

English

Write a non-chronological report about an aspect of Benin civilisation.

English Objectives

Comprehension

- Retrieve, record and present information from non-fiction books
- Summarise main ideas identifying key details
- Make comparisons within and across books, commenting on similarities and differences between texts

Grammar & Punctuation

- Indicate parenthesis using brackets, dashes and commas
- Use commas to clarify meaning and avoid ambiguity
- Link ideas across a paragraph using adverbials of time, place and number or by varying tense
- Build cohesion with a paragraph

English Learning Sequence

- Children explore covers, blurbs and titles of books about Benin – what do they notice? Annotate examples with ideas
- Examine features of information books and discuss how these can be used to locate information quickly and efficiently
- Compare the features of different information books – what are the similarities and differences?
- Unpick real examples of non-chronological reports, focusing on tone, structure, language and content
- Children create own checklist for writing a non-chronological report
- Use historical questions about Benin to decide which aspect to research for own report

Text Structure & Features

- Use a wide range of devices to build cohesion within and across paragraphs
- Use further organisation and presentational devices to structure texts

Plan, Draft, Edit & Evaluate

- Use dictionaries to check the spelling and meaning of word
- Identify audience and purpose of writing
- Note and develop initial ideas drawing from reading
- Select appropriate grammar and punctuation and understand how these can change/enhance meaning
- Assess effectiveness of own and others' writing
- Propose changes to grammar, punctuation and vocabulary to enhance meaning/effectiveness
- Choose the appropriate register (formal/informal)

In addition to the above, teachers should apply general spelling rules and guidance, as listed in [English Appendix 1](#) and ensure concepts and skills outlined in [English Appendix 2](#) are also addressed.

- Use books and other resources to research the information needed to write the report summarising the main ideas from each source
- Grammar sessions on parenthesis. Explore what is meant by parenthesis and the types of punctuation used to denote parenthesis
- Explore this with example sentences related to Benin
- Agree focus and plan content for non-chronological report and jot ideas/notes. Rehearse orally with peers
- Draft, edit and improve writing to produce final piece. Check for cohesion within and across paragraphs – how can this be achieved?

Science

Discuss and explore the process of birth, growing up and ageing in humans.

Science Objectives
Working Scientifically

- Describe the changes as humans develop from birth to old age

Science Learning Sequence

- Linking to historical concept of chronology and timelines, identify different life stages: baby, teenager, adult. What do children already know about how we grow and develop through life?
- Children discuss own families and perhaps create a family tree with guidance. Who is oldest? Youngest? Baby? Elderly? Teenager?
- Order images of different life stages and annotate with key words and phrases eg toddler etc. and add approximate ages for each

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ‘Zoom in’ on each key stage in turn, deciding the most appropriate type of scientific enquiry to find out information (see Resource Pack) • Decide how to present findings in an innovative and engaging way
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History

Select and organise relevant information, explaining contrasting arguments.

<p>History Objectives</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understand how knowledge of the past is constructed from a range of sources • Discern how/why contrasting arguments and interpretations of the past exist by weighing evidence and sifting arguments • Construct informed responses that involve thoughtful selection and organisation of relevant historical information • Explore trends, looking at continuity/change and similarity/difference/significance • Examine different aspects of history eg social, cultural, political and religious • Gain historical perspective by making connections between local, national and international history • Use and apply a range of historical vocabulary 	<p>History Learning Sequence</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scatter range of images, books, dates, key words relating to Benin around room – which part of history is this? Collate ideas and recap chronology / timeline • Using the clues, children generate historically-valid questions and suggest how we could find answers • Introduce children to key words relating to topic and ensure understanding of definitions • Decide on which aspect of Benin civilisation they want to research eg social, religious, arts and crafts • Use a wider range of sources to find answers to their questions, ensuring they select and organise key information • Consider how and why there are different representations of history • Draw comparisons with previously-taught eras, looking for similarities and differences • Draw comparisons with Britain at that time, looking for similarities and differences • Present findings in a lively, engaging way
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Art

Develop printing skills to create a representation of Benin civilisation.

<p>Art Objectives</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Capture artistic process in sketchbook • In print, make printing blocks eg from coiled spring on card to 	<p>Art Learning Sequence</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Examine images of Benin art including wood/ivory carvings, weaving and brass casting
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<p>create repeated pattern</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use a range of artistic vocabulary to communicate ideas, discuss and evaluate work/other art works • Improve mastery of art and design techniques with a wide range of materials • Communicate ideas and comment on artworks using artistic language 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children comment on subject matter (animals, gods and people) - what do they notice? Critique and discuss using artistic language • Collect examples and try to emulate images with pencils, capturing the process in sketchbooks • Consider how they create own Benin art piece using printing • Develop skill of making own printing blocks eg using string or card- how could this emulate the designs/images they see? • Design and make own Benin art using printing, reflecting life at that time • Research famous artists from other countries/periods who used printing eg Katsushika Hokusai from Edo period in Japan
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D&T

Prepare and cook a variety of dishes, drawing on West African culture.

<p>D&T Objectives</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prepare and cook a variety of predominantly savoury dishes using a range of cooking techniques 	<p>D&T Learning Sequence</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children discuss and research typical dishes from countries within Africa, drawing on their own experiences where relevant • Collect images and recipes based on this • Discuss the kinds of foods/ingredients used and the reasons for using these eg adding flavour/spice • Children design own dish using West African influence • Decide on list of ingredients and utensils required • Prepare dish using a range of skills eg cutting, slicing, dicing • Cook dish, paying close attention to health and safety in a kitchen • Sample dish and evaluate, considering improvements and taking on feedback
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Computing

Use a range of search engines and are discerning about the results.

<p>Computing Objectives</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use a wide range of search technologies effectively and appreciate how results are selected and ranked 	<p>Computing Learning Sequence</p>
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- Be discerning in evaluating the reliability of digital content
Recognise the opportunities computer networks offer for communication and collaboration

- Provide different search engines and different digital content to retrieve – focus on importance of accuracy in spelling, syntax and search criteria to ensure accurate results
- In groups, evaluate and explore why results could be different according to search engine and record
- Start to consider how results are organised and ranked, including use of ads
- Explain the school network and how this works
- Create an explanation of how this links computers to resources in school and beyond
- Provide webpages for children to explain in some detail how credible a webpage is and the information it contains