



This document is designed to inform you of the learning planned for your child's next unit of inquiry. In addition we offer you some optional ideas for supporting your child at home.

Y1 Unit Overview

How We Express Ourselves

In their third unit, the Year 1 students are inquiring into the central idea, **“Imagination can be shared through storytelling.”** During this inquiry they will explore the concepts of imagination and stories. They will inquire into the features of stories and the different ways stories can be shared. They will also find out what part our imagination plays in creating stories and what techniques storytellers can use to make their stories “come alive” for the reader. The students will be given opportunities to find out about and experience many different ways stories can be told such as through puppets, role play and story stones. From there they were able to self select which form of story they would like to create and apply what they learned about storytelling techniques to their own stories. Through these inquiries students will develop their understanding of what it means to be a **communicator** and the PYP attitude of **creativity**. They will be able to apply both of these dispositions to their own stories and present them to an audience. Students will further develop their ability to communicate through the skill of **viewing**. They will learn how images and language work together to convey meaning to an audience. Students will also gain **metacognitive** skills, particularly when planning their stories, reflecting and adjusting them.

You may wish to support your child at home in the following ways:

Developing vocabulary:



Key vocabulary used in this unit will be:

creativity, expression, play, imaginative, imagination, story, storytelling, arts, communication, music, dance, drama, role-play, story, retell, artist, form, causation, perspective, visual art, puppet, theatre, respond, create, beginning, middle, end, non-verbal, emotions

Conceptual questions:



*This unit will be addressed through the lens of **form**, **causation** and **function**. To develop the concept of form talk to your child about the different features of stories. Do all stories have characters? Do they all have a beginning, middle and end? To address the concept of causation talk to your child about why imagination is important to storytellers and how they can use their own imagination to tell stories in creative ways. When exploring function you can talk to your child about the different ways authors help their stories come to life. Do they use certain words to express an emotion, do their illustrations help enhance the story or when they tell the story do their tone and pace give you a picture of what's happening?*

Fun things to do:



Create stories using different medium: art, writing, song or dance. Go to the theatre and watch a story being re-told on stage. Share your favorite childhood story and talk about what makes it so special. Read with your child a range of stories and talk about how the author used his/her imagination to create the story and make it come alive. Brainstorm ideas for stories with your child and help him/her create a storyboard to represent one of them. Video tape your child retelling a story. Download story apps such as bookcreator, toontastic or superstore and have your child create a story online.

Look for action:



ACTION is a key element of the Primary Years Programme. We are always looking to see how children take their learning and apply it independently. This can take many forms - from a discussion about the Unit of Inquiry at home initiated by your child, role-play or even a request to bring a book or artifact in to school because it relates to the work we have been doing in school. Now that you know what the unit is all about please keep your eyes open for evidence of action and let us know! **Any action that you tell us about will be kept as part of your child's records.**





Alongside the key concepts, attitudes, learner profile attributes and action elements of the Primary Years Programme there is a body of knowledge that will be taught during the course of each unit. The main learning outcomes are outlined below for your reference. The children's understanding of each objective is assessed before each planned learning experience in order for us to pitch the work according to your child's ability and needs:

ENGLISH:

Through listening and speaking engagements, children will continue to work towards using gestures, actions, body language and/or words to communicate needs and to express ideas. We will continue our work with having children being able to follow classroom instructions independently. When viewing children will begin to make predictions based on the image they are seeing. In reading students will participate in shared reading, joining in with rhymes, refrains and repeated texts and demonstrate an understanding that print and illustrations combine to carry the message. In writing students will create illustrations to match their own text and begin writing informally about their ideas, experiences and feelings using simple sentence structure. We will be reading a lot of familiar texts and part of our writing program will be having the children innovate on texts they hear such as using the same storyline but changing a character or setting. We will also have children follow the pattern of familiar texts but change some words to make it their own.

MATHS

The main maths outcomes being addressed during this unit are:

- Estimate, compare, describe and measure the length, mass and capacity of objects using non-standard units.
- Read and write the time to the hour.
- Share collections into equal groups.
- Divide objects into equal parts.

ARTS

When involved in the 'creative' process, learner will have the opportunity to communicate and express feelings through body movements, explore familiar roles, themes and stories dramatically, explore sound as a means of expressing imaginative ideas, and realize that their artwork has meaning.

When involved in 'responding' within the arts, students will work to describe the ideas and feelings communicated through body movements, respond to live performances, stories and play from other times and/or places, describe how music makes them feel and make personal connections to artworks.

INFORMATION LITERACY

Students will have opportunities to listen to stories online using Tumblebooks and other online libraries. They will create stories using electronic tools trying to incorporate elements of a good story. A great app for storytelling is book creator or MyStory.

Your child will learn best of all when school and home work as a team. If you have any questions at all please do not hesitate to contact us.



“Success for Every Child”