

INSTITUT INTERNATIONAL DE LANCY
ENGLISH SECTION

Outline of Our Work for the First Half of the Autumn Term – Year 4

What will we be learning?

What the daily life of the Ancient Egyptians was like. How the river Nile affected daily life and routines in Ancient Egypt.

How village settlers chose their area of settlement and some of the reasons why.

How organisms are affected by their habitat and why some habitats are more suited for some organisms.

Numeracy:

We will be developing these skills and concepts:

Numbers to 10 000, ordering, the relationship between addition and subtraction, near doubles, column addition and problems involving money, length and related problems, classifying polygons, right-angles, co-ordinates.

How you can help at home and during the holidays:

Support your child with their homework every day. Ask them to explain their reasoning or justify their answers (not only when they are incorrect!), check their work using the inverse operation (use addition to check subtraction and vice versa). In the car, on the bus, at home... give your child a larger number and ask them how many tens, hundreds, units or thousands. Ask them for instance how much the value of the 3 in 7380 is (300). Give your child two or more numbers and ask them to say which is greater/smaller and order them. This can be done when shopping by looking at prices or when cooking using the weight or capacity on food containers. Ask your child to help you with day to day Maths at home. Help your child know their doubles to 50 by recalling them rapidly often. Ask them near double questions (eg. $18+19=$ which is the same as double $18+1$). Ask your child to help you solve real life problems (help you with a sum at the supermarket, help you work out how many eggs you will need for double the recipe...). Prompt your child to measure things at home by helping with the DIY for example (check their accuracy and re-measure with them). Ask your child to point out various 2-D shapes in the kitchen and classify them according to their number of right-angles. Involve your child when using a map by asking them to give you co-ordinates of a location or by asking them to find a place with the co-ordinates you give.

Language and Literacy:

We will be developing these skills and concepts:

Chronology in narratives, settings and characters in stories, verbs and their tenses, adjectives, newspaper articles: opening sentences, headlines and various features, fact and opinion, conjunctions, commas in sentences.

How you can help at home and during the holidays:

Make your child read 4 lots of 20 minutes per week, read at least once a week out loud with them and write a comment in their reading record. Ask them to predict what will happen next/ to explain why something happened using the text to justify their views. Ask them questions to check their understanding, include inferential questions. Beware of reading that sounds very confident! Children this age can read very well but not understand what they are reading. Check with shorter and longer answer questions. Discuss how the plot develops and the characters' and author's motivations. Help your child with research in other subjects: to summarise or put it into their own words, to improve presentation... Rehearse weekly spelling patterns in the car/on the bus. Challenge your child to spell longer words that are derived from the root word they know. Ask your child quiz questions about verbs (eg. Ask them to tell you all the action words they can see out of the car window, ask them to put it in the past or present continuous...). Ask your child to describe things for you by playing guessing games (enrich their vocabulary with your own descriptive words). Collect English speaking newspapers and read appropriate articles together. Discuss facts and opinion, the layout of the text, the kind of language used, the colours, the sections... Help your child complete longer assignments by re-reading their work with them and helping them spot mistakes, missing punctuation (commas in particular) and missing words. Help them improve their writing by connecting short sentences to make longer ones.

Science:

We will be covering this topic:

Organisms and their habitats.

We will be developing these skills and concepts:

Making observations and supporting them with our knowledge, making predictions, carrying out an experiment safely and sensibly, using equipment sensibly, identifying patterns and conditions, sorting organisms using a key of their main characteristics.

How you can help at home and during the holidays:

Take your child on walks in different areas, spot living things and discuss why they live where you found them. Ask your child to predict what they would find under a stone, at the foot of a tree... Go on a scavenger hunt in the forest/park/by the lake. Look at animal and plant books together and find habitats. Support your child with research homework by asking them relevant questions and giving them supervised access to the internet and/or fact books. A fabulous resource for this topic can be found at <http://www.planetarkive.org/>

History:

We will be covering this topic:

Daily life in Ancient Egypt.

We will be developing these skills and concepts:

To know some of the differences between Egypt today and Ancient Egypt. To place the Ancient Egyptian civilisation on a timeline. Observing physical features and deducing their importance for a civilisation. Using information books to find out historical facts. Deductive skills using pictures and artefacts.

How you can help at home and during the holidays:

Ask your child what they have learnt in school about Ancient Egypt this week. Support and complement their knowledge with information books, documentaries and the internet. Ask your child what they are most interested in and help them formulate questions and research the answers. Take your child to museums and exhibitions related to Ancient Egypt. Support your child with research and deductive homework by letting them know how you yourself work things out.

Geography:

We will be covering this topic:

Village settlers.

We will be developing these skills and concepts:

Using an atlas and maps. Understanding and beginning to use scale. Collecting evidence by observation. Differentiating between the reasons for small-scale settlements to have developed the way they did.

How you can help at home and during the holidays:

Take a walk around your area and discuss the landscape, buildings, activities and reasons people have chosen this area to live (including yourself). Collect pictures of various villages (post cards, posters, calendars, your own photographs, internet, books, magazines) and play 'Where am I?' Let your child look your holiday destination/where family or friends live up on a map and help them work out distances using the map scale. Compare photographs of places with maps. Help your child complete or review their homework and expect a good standard of presentation from them even for worksheets.

RE

We will be covering this topic:

Hindu

We will be developing these skills and concepts:

Will know what do Hindus teach their children about God.

Will understand the meaning of the aum symbol and its significance for Hindus.

Learn some aspects of Hindu beliefs in God.

Will know that the Hindu idea of God is in many forms.

Students will reflect on the different aspects of their own character.

Students learn that shrines are special places in a Hindu home.

Learn some of the ways that Hindus show devotion to God.

Identify the word puja.

Discuss the actions in worship often have symbolic meanings.