

English

The units of writing this term will include narrative, persuasive brochure writing, and formal letter writing for a specific purpose. In the narrative unit, pupils will focus on creating tension through setting and character description. During the formal letter of complaint unit, they will learn how to adapt their writing for a specific audience, using appropriate features such as formal language, first person, and correct layout. In the persuasive writing unit, pupils will explore a range of techniques used to engage and influence the reader. Across all units, there will be a focus on key sentence types and language features, including figurative language, parenthesis, short sentences for tension, and direct speech, alongside a range of Alan Peat sentence structures. Reading will be promoted through daily guided reading sessions and story time, as well as weekly comprehension lessons, with a focus on inference and the use of evidence to justify responses.

Science

This term, pupils will work scientifically by carrying out investigations to answer questions and develop their understanding of how materials change. They will explore both reversible and irreversible changes, learning that some processes—such as rusting or mixing vinegar with bicarbonate of soda - result in the formation of new materials and cannot be reversed. Pupils will also study the life cycles of a range of organisms, focusing on stages of development, reproduction, and the overall cycle of life. They will compare similarities and differences between the life cycles of plants, animals, and humans.

Computing

In the first unit this term, pupils will learn how to plan and create short videos. They will explore camera angles and filming techniques, developing skills in capturing, editing, and manipulating video using iMovie. After half term, the focus will shift to computer systems and networks. Pupils will develop an understanding of how search results are ranked and influenced, and learn how to refine their searches effectively when information is not easily found.

Religious Education

This term, pupils will explore the importance of prayer across a range of faiths, considering why prayer is significant in different religions. They will question whether all prayers share common themes and investigate similarities and differences between them, as well as interpreting the meaning of selected prayers.



The Federation of Abbey Infant & Junior School Curriculum Map for Year 5 2025-2026 - Summer term



For specific class information see <https://www.abbeyfederation.co.uk/topic/class-pages>
For dates see <https://www.abbeyfederation.co.uk/news-and-events/calendar>
Email: y5@abbey.sandwell.sch.uk

Our topic is 'Rainforests'.

Through this topic, we will link our learning in History, Geography, Art, and Design & Technology to the study of rainforests. This topic focuses on developing pupils' knowledge and understanding of the world's rainforests, including their locations, the animals that inhabit them, and the indigenous tribes who live there. We will also explore current environmental issues such as deforestation, endangered species, and the impact of palm oil production. We are excited to welcome back our annual visitor, 'Rainforest Dave', who will bring artefacts, photographs, and even some of his own rainforest animals for the children to see and handle. In addition, we will be hosting a rainforest-themed workshop for parents and carers, which will include an Art and Design & Technology activity. Throughout the term, we will promote key soft skills such as communication, leadership, teamwork, and creativity. Our 'bucket list' experiences this term include Rainforest Dave's Roadshow and a Maths challenge workshop for parents and carers. We will also be holding a sports morning in the woods (weather permitting). In Design & Technology, pupils will focus on developing practical life skills, including health and safety awareness, basic DIY skills, and project work. These, alongside our core soft skills, will be developed across all areas of the curriculum.

History

This term, pupils will study the Ancient Maya civilisation. They will develop their understanding of who the Maya were, where they lived, and what daily life was like. Pupils will explore the culture, rituals, and beliefs of this early civilisation through research and discussion. They will also consider possible reasons for the decline of the Maya civilisation, including deforestation, war, and drought, forming their own opinions and conclusions based on the evidence. Throughout the topic, pupils will examine how different indigenous tribes have survived over time and the challenges they have faced. This will include exploring the impact of recent global events, such as the pandemic, on indigenous and uncontacted tribes.

Art & Design

Pupils will use the gridding method to create detailed observational drawings. They will begin by working collaboratively as a class to produce a large-scale drawing before progressing to individual pieces. Within this unit, they will explore negative and positive space and develop their skills using a range of different media. Finally, pupils will create a final piece incorporating a variety of textures, applying the techniques they have developed throughout the unit.

Geography

Through the study of rainforests, pupils will explore the human impact on these areas, including deforestation and the use of palm oil. They will consider the importance of the Amazon's indigenous tribes, wildlife, and commercial activity. Pupils will further develop their skills in using longitude and latitude to locate places around the world, consolidating their understanding of key geographical vocabulary. Their locational knowledge will focus on North and South America, with particular emphasis on the Amazon rainforest and its key physical features. They will also develop an understanding of the structure of the rainforest, examining its different layers. In addition, pupils will explore the lives, cultures, and lifestyles of the indigenous tribes.

Design Technology

This term, pupils will design and create a moving toy using cams, linked to their rainforest topic. They will begin by evaluating existing products and researching what makes them effective. Pupils will use a range of tools and materials, including saws, glue guns, and wood. They will learn how to create effective joints, measure accurately, and cut to specific angles and measurements. They will also consider which cam mechanisms are most suitable for their design.

Mathematics

This term, pupils will continue to develop their understanding of decimals, including converting and ordering them. They will explore the properties of 2D and 3D shapes, strengthening their reasoning skills, including work on regular and irregular polygons. Pupils will use protractors to measure angles within shapes and around a point. They will also learn to draw and identify parallel and perpendicular lines before moving on to reflecting and translating shapes using coordinates. In addition, they will convert between imperial and metric units of measurement. Fluency will be developed through daily practice sessions, regular use of TT Rock Stars and NCETM multiplication resources, and weekly arithmetic tests. Pupils will also continue to develop their understanding of telling the time and calculating time durations. Reasoning skills will be embedded throughout all maths lessons.

French

Our topic is *Les Habitats*, and pupils will learn about different types of habitats and the plant and animal adaptations associated with them in French. They will have the opportunity to write sentences describing a habitat, a plant, and a relevant animal that lives there. When reading longer texts, pupils will identify cognates (words that resemble their English equivalents) and highlight key vocabulary to demonstrate understanding. They will continue to develop their knowledge of adjectival agreement and learn how to use structures such as *de la, de l', and du* accurately.

Music

Our music focus is *Dancing in the Street* by Martha and the Vandellas. Pupils will explore the cultural context of Motown music by listening to and appraising a range of Motown songs. They will perform alongside the track using instruments, developing their understanding of rhythm, pulse, and tempo through practical musical activities. Pupils will also develop their knowledge of musical notation, learning to read and compose simple music to perform with the song.

PE

Pupils will have the opportunity to play cricket, developing skills in batting, fielding, and tactical awareness. They will learn the rules of the game and develop their ability to communicate and work cooperatively in teams. In the second half term, pupils will move on to athletics. They will develop their sprinting technique and combine running with hurdles over distances of up to 60m. When throwing, they will analyse their technique and body position to improve performance, and in jumping activities they will focus on control during take-off and landing. Pupils will be encouraged to compete with others while also tracking their personal bests and setting targets for improvement.