


Connector Newsletter

Team 1-5 will have 4 connector topics over the year and Team 6 will have 3 connector topics. One of these will be a whole school topic based on our work with Chester Zoo. All of our topics will ignite the fire for learning in our children and are based on our curriculum principles.



Whole School Connector Topics

	Connector 1	Connector 2	Connector 3	Whole School Connector
Team 1	Dreams	Explore		
Team 2	My World	Our World		
Team 3	Discovery	Shelter		
Team 4	Beyond	Eureka		
Team 5	Go with the Flow	Parallel		
Team 6	Power	The Island		

Connector 1 Topics

Team One



Dreams

Where can our dreams take us?

We will embark on an adventure into dream worlds through our main texts “The Beasties” and “Before I Wake Up...” We will find out about our local area, following a treasure trail left by The Beasties, as well as learning lots about ourselves to tell our new Beastie friends. We will be focusing on using our curiosity skills to help us learn. We will also be developing our understanding of the local area in geography, as well as observing different weather patterns in science. In history, we will be thinking about putting events in chronological order. We will reflect on how we have changed since we were born. We will be collecting photographs of the children throughout their lives to begin to understand chronology.

PE days are Wednesday and Friday.

Team Two

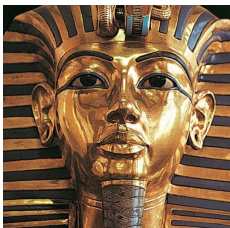


My World

How much do we know about ourselves?

In our first connector Team 2 will be exploring their own lives to find out more about who we are, where we come from and our world. We will be exploring our strengths and discussing what we are good at as well as what we want to work on more in Team 2. Our class text ‘Perfectly Norman’ follows the story of a boy who discovers he is just perfect the way that he is. In Geography we will be exploring our local area by looking at maps and even creating our own. We will explore our town in a local area walk and discuss how it has changed over time and understanding chronology. In this connector the children in Team 2 will develop a deeper understanding of themselves, where they come from and who they are as learners.

Team Three



Discovery

How much did the earliest civilizations shape our world today?

In our first connector Team 3 will explore using their historical skills to investigate what it life was like during the earliest civilizations. We will focus mainly on the Ancient Egyptians and the Indus Valley Civilization. Through their discovery the children will make comparisons and start to make connections between their inventions and the things we have today. They will develop asking historical questions and thinking critically while looking at different sources.

Our class texts are based on life in Ancient Egypt. The first is The Gods Are Watching which is a mystery story based on a young boy trying in Egypt. The children will use this to create their own stories.

Team Four



Beyond

What impact did the Roman era have on us in Britain then and now?

Can we always see past the differences set previously by societies?

In our first connector of the new school year, we will be gaining knowledge and experience of what it would have been like to live in the Roman era. The children will have the opportunity to explore in depth how society has developed and the impact the period has had upon our lives in Britain today.

Children will be exploring how different members of society were not allowed to socialise and how this caused many battles between parties. This is a fantastic link to PHSE and delving deeper into the positive values we promote and live out during our everyday lives. In particular, justice.

We will be reading the text Across the Roman wall about the journey of an unlikely friendship and linking it to the story of Escape from Pompeii which the children have studied previously.

Team Five



Go with the Flow

How does the constant flow of people affect a nation?

In our first connector, Team 5 will travel across the Atlantic ocean to explore and discover the continent of North America, paying particular focus on the United States of America (USA). We will discover fascinating facts about North America, but we will also find out the names, locations, capital cities and features of the 50 states of the USA. We will develop our skills in human and physical geography and further our historical and cultural knowledge of the states of the USA. We will learn to work collaboratively and creatively to produce a mini project on our allocated states.

Our first text is about the amazing Annie Edson Taylor, the first person to go over Niagara Falls in a barrel. We will learn about the different types of forces in science and how this had an affect on Annie Edson Taylor's barrel. The second text will be about a orphan, clock keeper and thief who lives in the walls of a busy Paris train station, where his survival depends on secrets and anonymity.

Team Six



Power

Does war change everything?

We will be exploring what life was like during WWI for both men and women using the texts 'The Amazing Tale of Ali Pasha'. This covers main events of the war and allows children to compare life then and now, and how events of the war have changed the way in which we live our lives today. We will be developing our research skills using evidence and resources to interpret the past and create our own structured accounts of people and events from WWI.

The second text we will be using is 'Once' by Morris Gleitzman. This book is set in Germany in WW2 and is studied alongside the local history of Liverpool during The Blitz.

We will also be able to make connections and analyse trends of the effects of changes, causes and consequences for all sections of society that were impacted by the war.