

Spring 1 – Dragons, Knights and Castles Theme MTP

Key Question – What was life like in the past?

(As per our intent statement, staff may also plan activities linked to children interests or key events that occur e.g. Valentine's Day)

Theme	Week 1	Week 2	Week 3	Week 4	Week 5
	Traditional Tales	Traditional Tales	Dragons and Knights	Castles/Royal Families	Chinese New Year - Year of the Dragon
Key Texts Focus F1 Cinderella Imitate - Learn the story/story map	Cinderella Imitate - Learn the story/story map	Cinderella Innovate - Create our own stories	The Knight and the Dragon by Tomie DePaola Imitate - Learn the story/story map	The Knight and the Dragon by Tomie DePaola Innovate - Create our own stories	Chinese New Year we love festivals (NFic info text)
Key Texts Focus F2 Talk4Writing Genre Hansel & Gretel Model text - Setting description - Forest Imitate - Learn the text map	Hansel & Gretel Model text - Setting description - Forest Imitate - Learn the text map	Hansel & Gretel Model text - Setting description - Forest Innovate - Create our setting description - e.g. jungle, under the sea.	The Night Dragon by Naomi Howarth Model text - discussion - Should you be afraid of dragons? Imitate - Learn the text map	The Night Dragon by Naomi Howarth Model text - discussion - Should you be afraid of dragons? Innovate- Create our own discussion text - Should you be afraid of witches/the forest? (reference to Hansel and Gretel)	Chinese New Year we love festivals (NFic info text) The Great Race:The story of the Chinese Zodiac
Possible experiences	Role play in the forest	Looking at artefacts from the past e.g. carriages, spinning wheels	Tiny Tales and Tunes Visit Making dragons Making swords and armour for role play	Constructing Castles Making a Royal Crest	Firework pictures Tasting traditional food Writing symbols (Hanzi) Dragon Dance

Knowledge for F1 (What do we want the children to retain?)	Children will know that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a traditional tale is a story that has been retold over many years. Sometimes called a fairy tale. • a traditional tale usually has a hero. A character who is good. • a traditional tale usually has a villain who is mean. 		Children will know that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In stories and legends, a dragon is an animal like a big lizard. It has wings and claws, and breathes out fire. • In medieval times, a knight was a man of noble birth, who served his king or lord in battle. 	Children will know that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Castles were built to: control the surrounding area, defend against enemy attack and launch weapons to attack enemies 	Children will know that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chinese New Year is celebrated every year. • Chinese New Year is celebrated by putting up decorations, watching dragon dances and fireworks. • Different animals represent different years.
Knowledge for F2 (What do we want the children to retain?)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a traditional tale is a story that has been retold over many years. Sometimes called a fairy tale. • a setting is where a story takes place. • a plot describes the events that make a story. • Over 200 years ago in Germany, the Brothers Grimm wrote down the very first traditional tales. They heard them from storytellers all over Europe. (Read a range of traditional tales during topic sessions)		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A dragon is a legendary creature. • In medieval times, a knight was a man of noble birth, who served his king or lord in battle. • In former times, armour was special metal clothing that soldiers wore for protection in battle. • A shield is a large piece of metal or leather, which soldiers used to carry to protect their bodies while they were fighting. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A castle is a large strong building, or group of buildings, designed to protect the people inside from attack. • A moat is a deep, wide ditch surrounding a castle, often filled with water. • A drawbridge is a bridge, which can be raised and lowered, often found over a castle's moat. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chinese New Year is celebrated annually. • Chinese New Year is celebrated by putting up decorations, eating reunion dinner with family on New Year's Eve, giving red envelopes and other gifts, firecrackers and fireworks and watching lion and dragon dances. • People communicate in different ways and speak in different languages. • The zodiac calendar is based on the story of the Animal Race.
Key Vocabulary	Traditional tale, fairy tale, past, history, old fashioned, setting, plot, character, hero, villain, storyteller, Brothers Grimm, retold, carriage.		Medieval, dragon, knight, armour, king, sword, shield, legend.	Castle, moat, drawbridge, enemy, protect, attack, defend, tower.	Celebration, China, Traditions, Race, Tiger, Animals, Ordinal Numbers, food, presents, family, lucky.
Links to the wider	Literacy - R&W The Natural World Maths - Number	Literacy - R&W The Natural World Maths - Number	Literacy - R&W The Natural World Maths - Number	Literacy - R&W The Natural World Maths - Number	People Culture and Communities Being Imaginative and Expressive

EYFS Curriculum	CAL - Speaking Maths - Patterns EAD - Creating with materials & Being Imaginative and Expressive	CAL - Speaking Maths - Patterns EAD - Creating with materials & Being Imaginative and Expressive	CAL - Speaking Maths - Patterns EAD - Creating with materials & Being Imaginative and Expressive	CAL - Speaking Maths - Patterns EAD - Creating with materials & Being Imaginative and Expressive	Gross Motor Skills
End of unit writing assessment for F2	Possible Ideas: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Description of a dragon - To write some information about Chinese New Year (NF) - Present their knowledge 				