

St. Mary's CE Primary School. Literacy Journey.



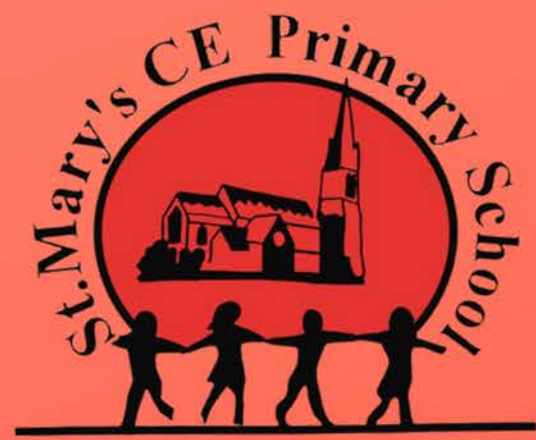
Start children off on the way they should go and,
even when they are old, they will not turn from it.
Proverbs 22:6

THE ST. MARY'S READER.

A number of considerations are made when selecting key texts for learning at St. Mary's:

1. How does the text link to our overall topic?
2. At which point in our learning journey should the text be used?
3. How does the text connect with our Christian Values?

Alongside our core text, we encourage children to make use of other texts which expand and deepen their understanding of the content.



LOVE



TRUST



PERSEVERANCE



RESPECT

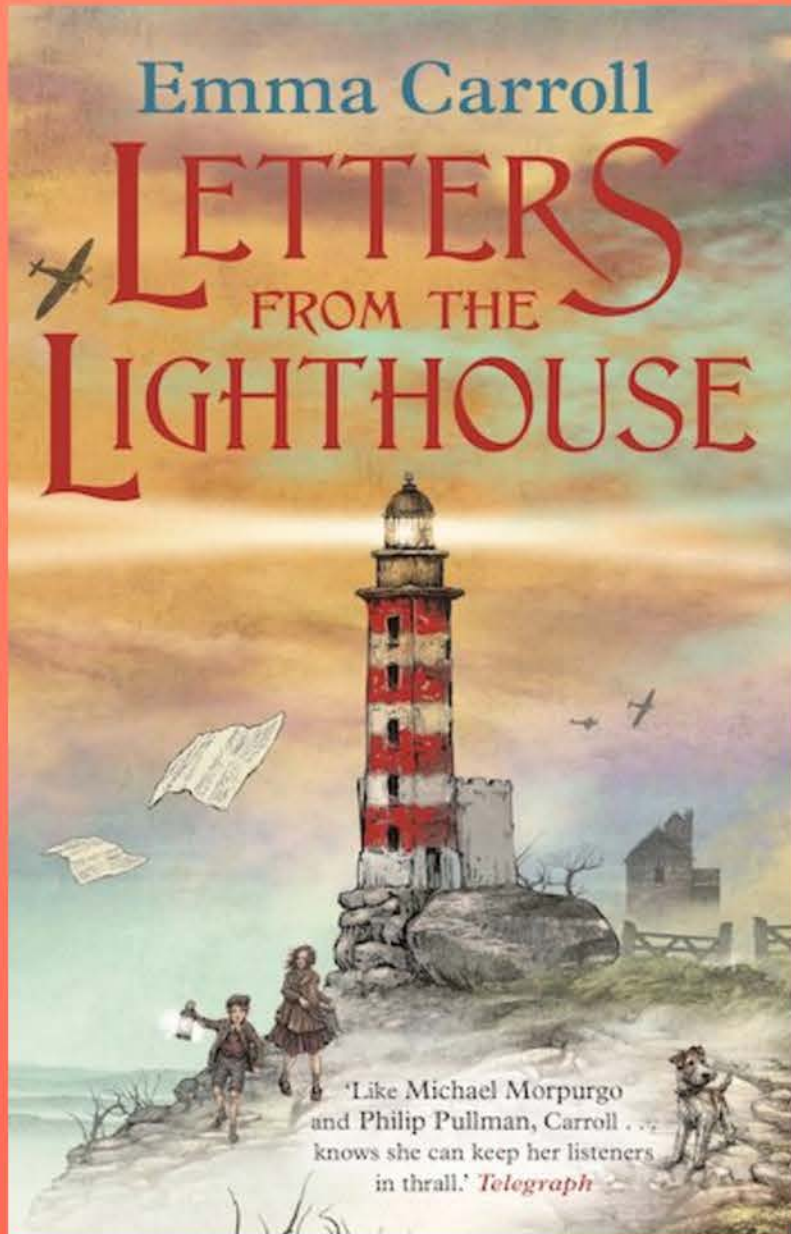


COURAGE



RESPONSIBILITY

SPRING – YEAR 6



What's it about?

"Letters from the Lighthouse" by Emma Carroll is set during World War II and follows a girl named Olive and her brother Cliff. After their home in London is bombed, they are evacuated to the countryside. They stay with a mysterious lighthouse keeper named Ephraim. While there, Olive discovers clues about her missing sister, Sukie, and becomes involved in a secret mission.

Why now?

Emma Carroll puts children directly in the shoes of children experiencing warfare and encourages them to expand their knowledge with plenty of war-related scenarios. It is a tale of finding the truth against all odds.

WHICH VALUES DOES THE BOOK TEACH?



LOVE



TRUST



PERSEVERANCE



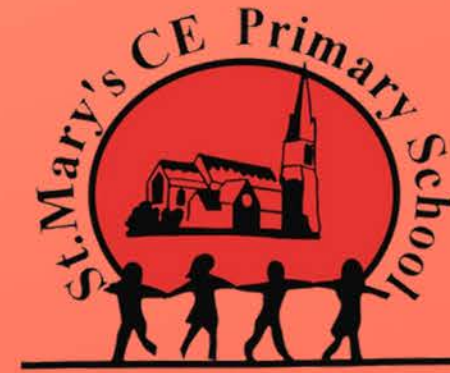
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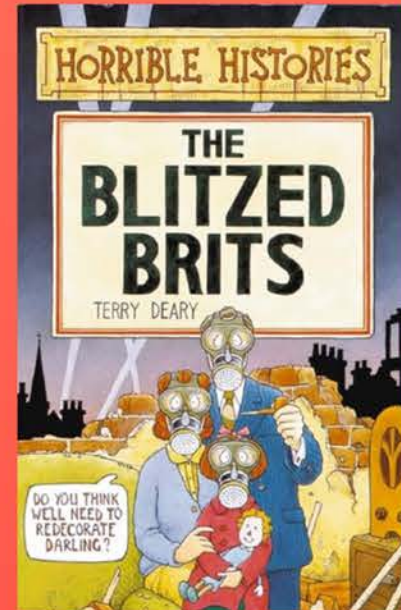
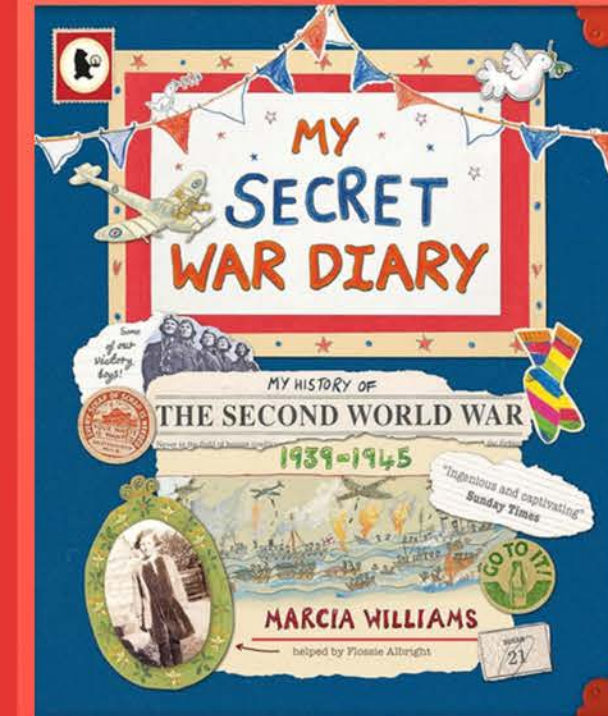
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RESPONSIBILITY

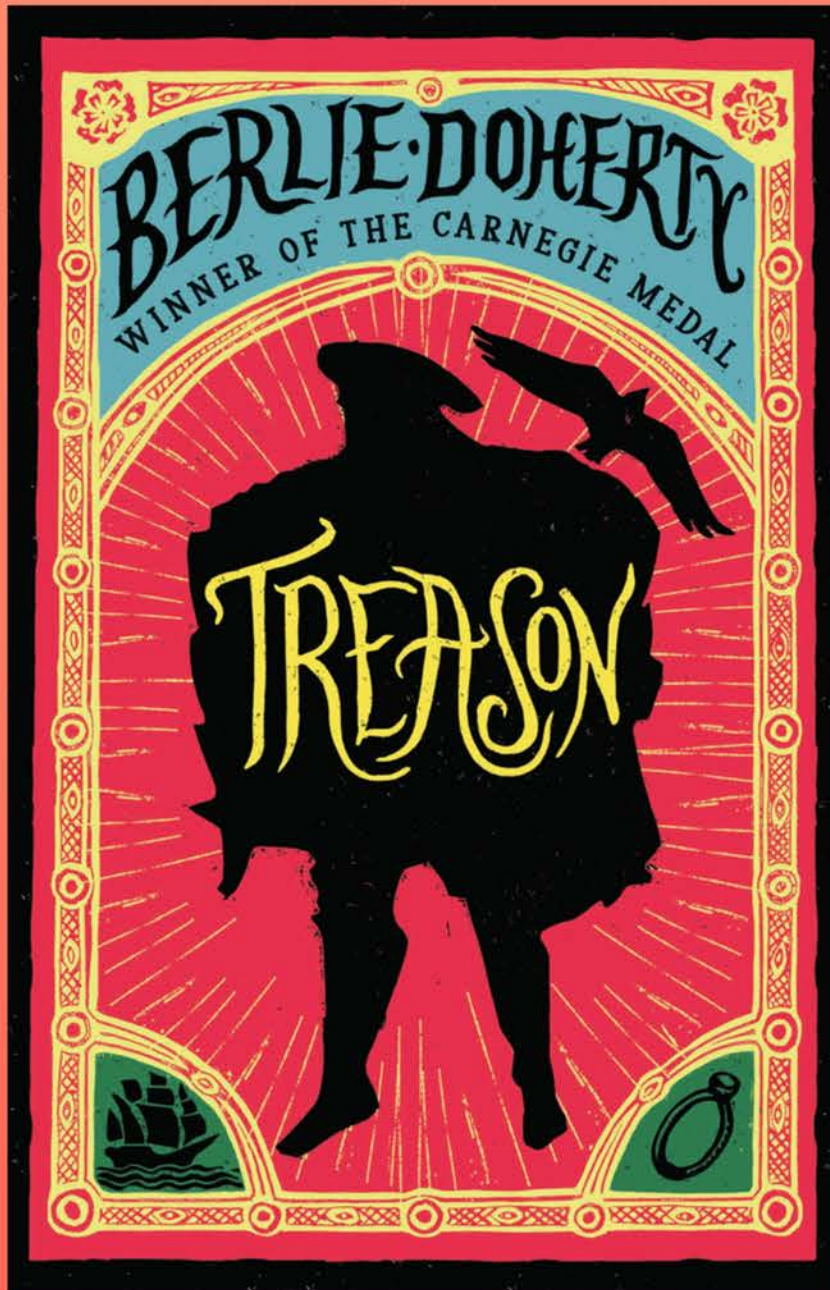


DISCOVER MORE...



SPRING 1 – YEAR 5

TOPIC LINK: THE TUDORS



What's it about?

Treason is a gripping historical novel set in the court of King Henry VIII. It follows Will Montague, a young boy whose father falls out of favor with the king. As Will becomes a servant to Prince Edward, he navigates the dangerous politics of Tudor England, facing loyalty, betrayal, and peril at every turn. This captivating story brings the Tudor period to life with vivid detail and emotional depth.

Why now?

As Year 5 explore increasingly complex stories, this tale is all about integrity and how the truth is possible to find, even when all around look to deceive and wrestle for power.

WHICH VALUES DOES THE BOOK TEACH?



LOVE



TRUST



PERSEVERANCE



RESPECT

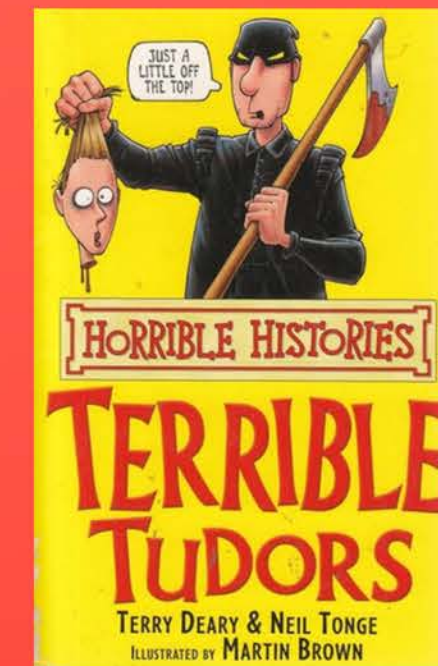
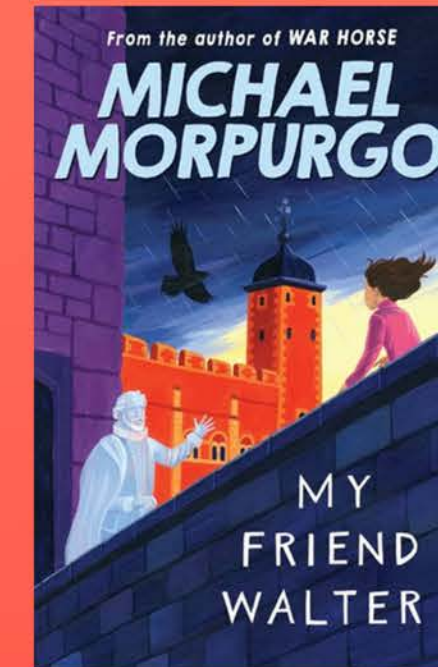


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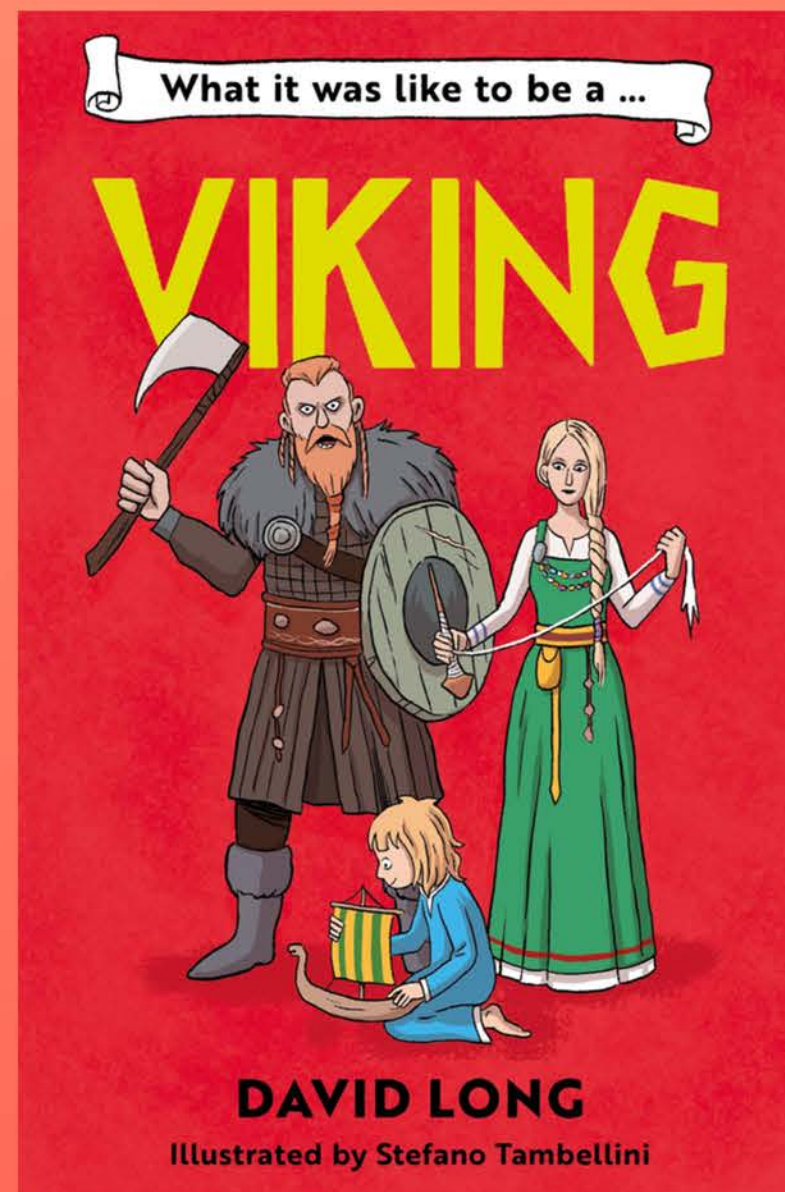
RESPONSIBILITY

DISCOVER MORE...



SPRING 1 – YEAR 4

TOPIC LINK: THE VIKINGS



What's it about?

This fascinating book delves into the lives of the Vikings, exploring their culture, daily activities, and adventurous spirit. From their fearsome raids to their craftsmanship and exploration, readers gain a vivid picture of what it was like to live in the Viking Age through engaging text and illustrations.

Why now?

Though there are lots of elements of Viking culture we don't see in the modern world, David Long introduces children to these hardened people and acts as a guide through the many challenges they faced.

WHICH VALUES DOES THE BOOK TEACH?

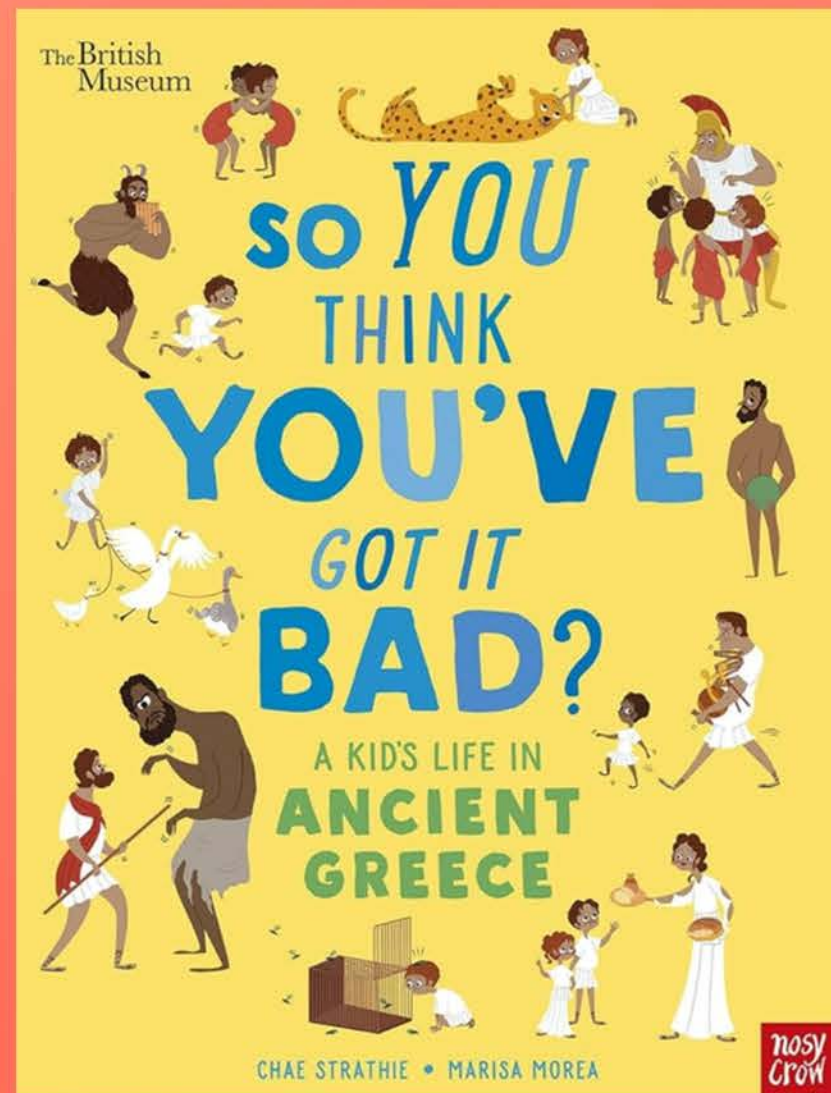


DISCOVER
MORE...



SPRING 1 – YEAR 3

TOPIC LINK: THE GREEKS



What's it about?

This engaging and informative book by Chae Strathie and Marisa Morea explores the realities of life for children in Ancient Greece. From challenging school routines to unusual food and clothing, the book humorously compares the past to the present, offering fascinating insights into the daily lives of children in a historical context.

Why now?

By investigating the challenges children of Ancient Greece faced, we learn to respect and value our lives and learn about the courage the Ancient Greeks needed to face daily problems.

WHICH VALUES DOES THE BOOK TEACH?



LOVE



TRUST



PERSEVERANCE



RESPECT



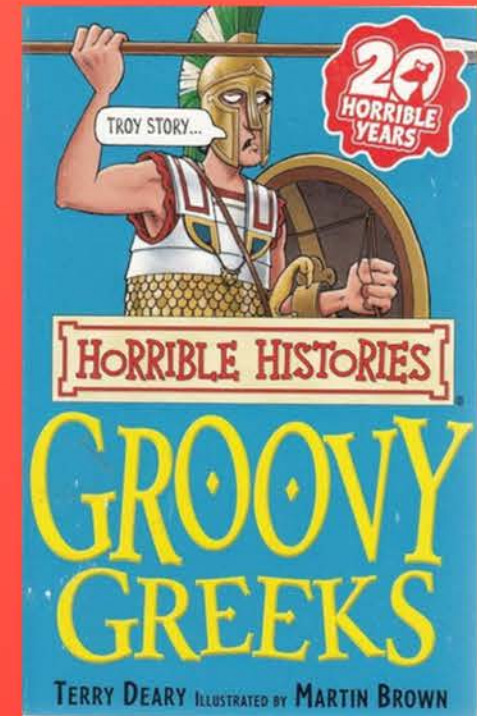
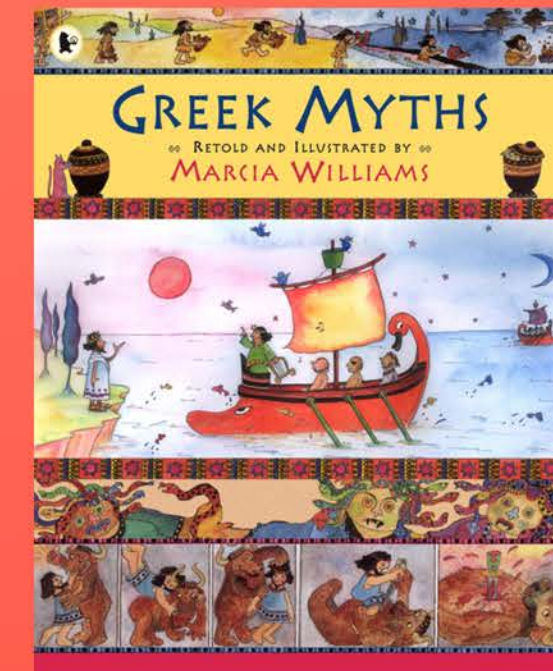
COURAGE



RESPONSIBILITY



DISCOVER MORE...



SPRING 1 – YEAR 2

TOPIC LINK: DRAGONS!

What's it about?

In this delightful story, Alex discovers a dragon in his house and writes letters to various experts for advice on how to care for it. Through a series of amusing and heartfelt exchanges, Alex learns about responsibility, friendship, and saying goodbye.

Why now?

Dragon Post allows children to engage with mythical dragons through the values of respect and love. The story also teaches children to love and courage required to 'let go' of things we must, because it is the responsible thing to do.

WHICH VALUES DOES THE BOOK TEACH?



LOVE



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RESPECT



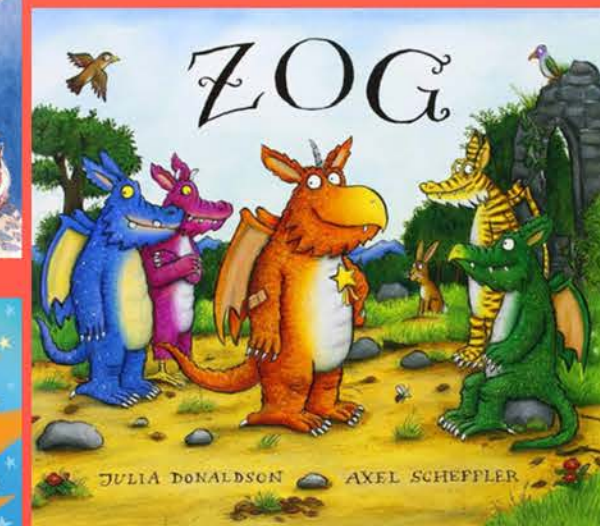
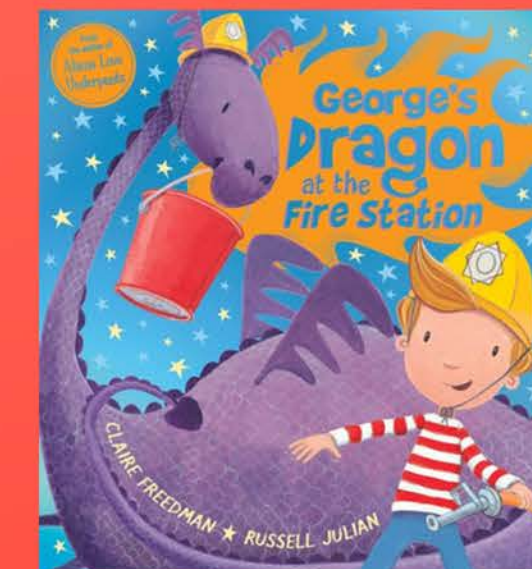
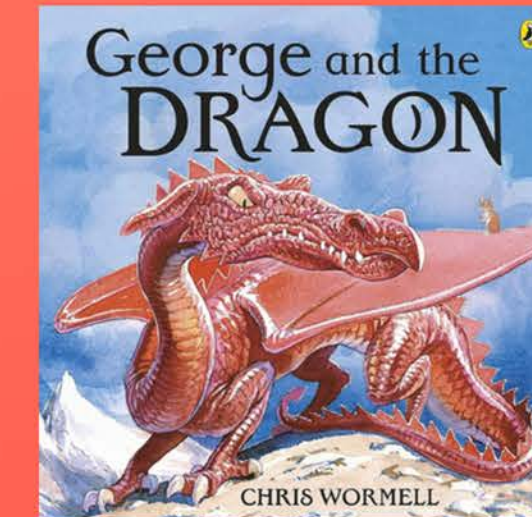
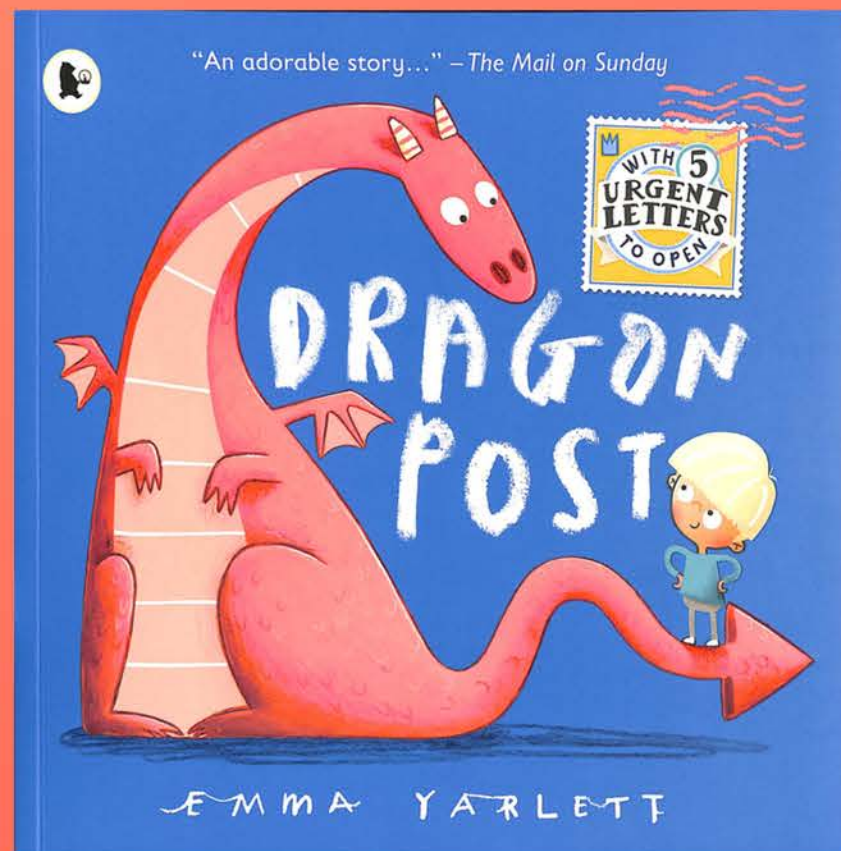
COURAGE



RESPONSIBILITY



DISCOVER MORE...



SPRING 1 – YEAR 1

TOPIC LINK: DINOSAURS

What's it about?

How to Look After Your Dinosaur by Jason Cockcroft is a humorous and charming guide for children imagining the joys and challenges of having a dinosaur as a pet. From feeding and cleaning to exercise and bedtime, the story explores the responsibility and care needed to look after such a unique friend, all told with delightful illustrations and humor.

Why now?

In a fun and vibrant way, Jason Cockcroft teaches us that love can be found wherever there is positivity and that we must be responsible with our planet and how we care for others.

WHICH VALUES DOES THE BOOK TEACH?



LOVE



TRUST



PERSEVERANCE



RESPECT



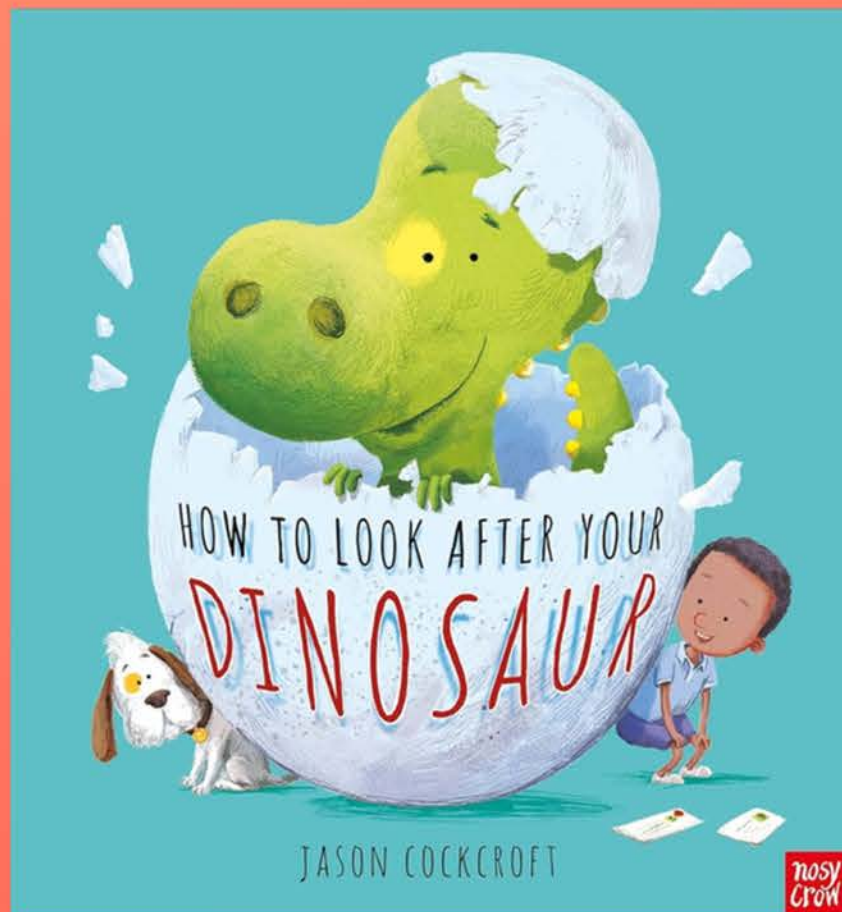
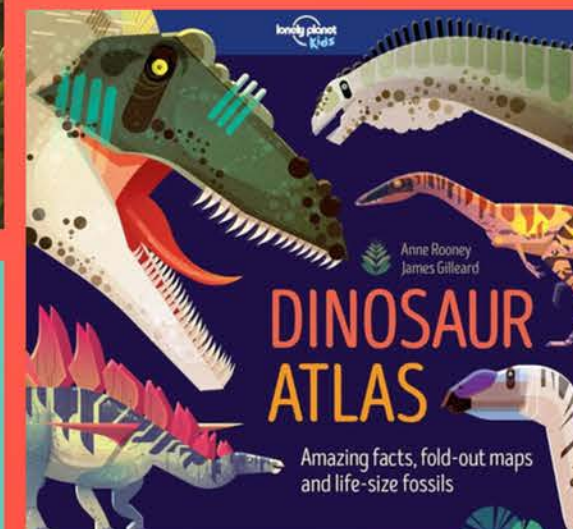
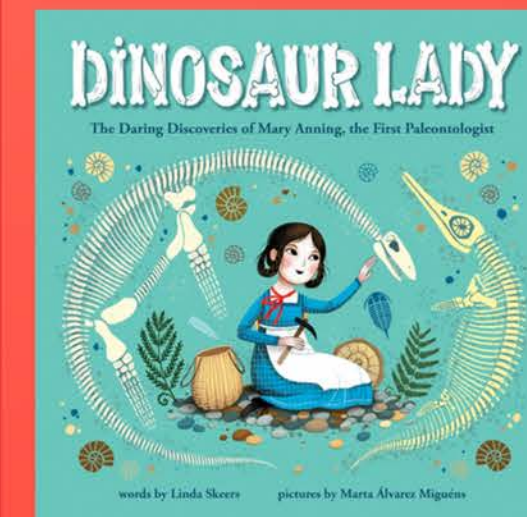
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RESPONSIBILITY

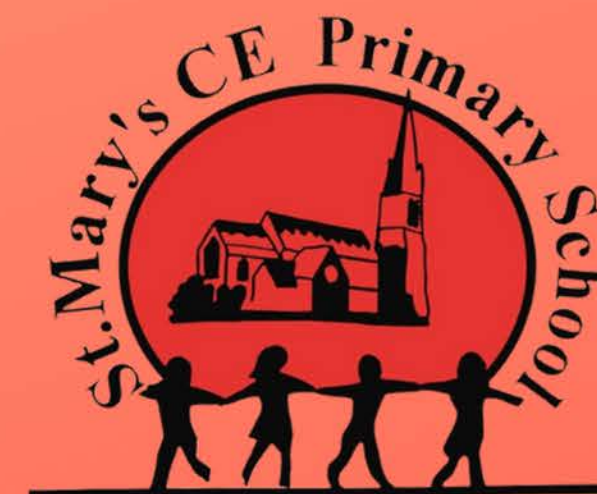


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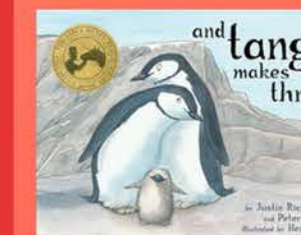
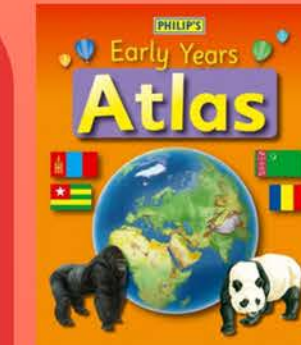


SPRING 1 – RECEPTION

TOPIC LINK: IS EVERY PLACE LIKE ROCHDALE?

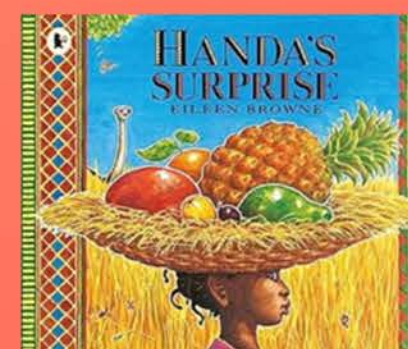


DISCOVER MORE...



What's it about?

Little Red Riding Hood visits her grandmother but encounters a cunning wolf along the way. This classic tale teaches courage, as Little Red faces danger and learns to stay alert and brave in tricky situations.



What's it about?

Handa carries a basket of fruit to her friend, Akeyo, but doesn't notice animals sneakily taking the fruit along the way. This vibrant story teaches responsibility, as Handa learns the joy of thoughtful giving despite unexpected surprises.



What's it about?

A boy finds a penguin at his door and helps him return home, only to realize the penguin was lonely and needed a friend. This touching story teaches love, as the boy's kindness and care create a special friendship.



In Early Years, children are introduced to an array of classic tales and stories that promote roleplay, oracy and creative expression. Each text takes the class through a different element of their topic, which is supported with provision around the classroom.