

Title: Year One Maps It Out



YEAR: 2026 **TERM:** Spring 1
YEAR GROUP: 1

Rationale

A letter from the local baker has arrived to Year 1 classrooms, explaining that The Gingerbread Man has been on holiday exploring a place in each of the countries of the United Kingdom. He has been sent some postcards but the post mark has been covered by cake mixture by accident! The baker would like to find out which postcard is from which country. Can we help him? Sometime later, the local baker gets in touch with the Year 1 children with a new message. The Gingerbread Man would like to live somewhere near the Park Gate area when he returns from exploring the countries of the United Kingdom, but he doesn't know what it is like to live here. A group of experts across the year group will be sent to different locations in the local area to investigate what it is like to live around Park Gate and how he can spend his time if he moves here. What will his family like about the area? Will it be suitable for them? The children will need to think like a geographer so that they can write a letter, draw maps and use their creative skills to inform his family about what it is like here and around Park Gate School. Excitedly, the children will wait to see if he decides that it is the place to be!

Lead Subject: Geography

In order to find out where the postcards have come from, we will learn more about the countries of the United Kingdom, thinking about its capital cities and the human and physical features we can find in that particular country. We will then delve deeper into our local area in order to help the Gingerbread Man find out what it's like to live in our area of Park Gate. The children will use simple fieldwork and observational studies to find out more about what we have in our local area of Park Gate, devising simple maps to gain a stronger knowledge of the roads around our area and to help us find key features.

Lead Subject: English

This half term we will focus on writing simple sentences using geographical vocabulary to write about the countries of the United Kingdom. After expert groups head out to a particular place in our local area, they will come back and share their knowledge, allowing children to begin to write descriptions about buildings, thinking about its features and purpose. This will then lead to writing a poster all about places the Gingerbread Man might visit if he moves to Park Gate. Children will eventually use their expert knowledge to write a letter back to the baker, explaining to him why the Gingerbread man might want to live in Park Gate.

Lead Subject: Art

Children will be creating collage art pieces of a physical feature found in the United Kingdom. To do this, they will be looking at photos and videos of key physical features around the UK and looking at ways craft makers have used materials to create collages. This will lead to experimenting with joining a range of materials and making marks in print and rubbings using a variety of objects to create their physical feature collage.

Applied Subject: Computing

This half term we will be learning how to log in to the school Chromebooks and use keyboard and mouse skills.

School Values: Trust

Children will learn how trust is integral when working within a team and how trust can be an important aspect of following instructions.

Applied Subject: PDL

This half term we will be learning about how to keep ourselves safe. We will look at how to keep ourselves healthy, the importance of sleep and who can help us.

Maths

This half term we will be looking at addition and subtraction strategies within 10 and notice how the addends can change but the sum remains the same. We will continue to investigate odd and even numbers and consecutive numbers. We will be finding the difference between numbers and learn doubles and halves. After this we will move on to looking at 2D shapes, recognising, sorting and drawing them.

Outcome:

The children will invite parents into school to showcase their knowledge of the United Kingdom and our area of Park Gate. They will talk about the opportunities Park Gate has to offer anyone moving into the area. They will be using road names, directional and positional language as well as names of key locations in our area to help them with their conversations whilst thinking like a geographer. Thursday 12th February at 2.30PM

Home learning

We will be asking the children to produce a map that shows their route to school from home. Thinking about what they see and go past on the way. Please continue reading as regularly as you can, recording these in reading records and continuing your work on Numbots!

Discrete-Music:

As Cold as Ice
Focus on duration and structure.

Discrete – RE

This half term we will be having an RE day on Friday 23rd January focussing on Stories Jesus Told led by Reuben Humphreys from the Schools Team at Southampton City Mission (CIO).

Discrete – PE

Indoor: Gymnastics
Outdoor: Invasion Game Skills

6 WEEKS