

Literacy Tree - Reception Curriculum Map



Theme/Term	Knowing Yourself - Autumn 1	Choose: 2 x Writing Roots
Writing Root/Spelling Seed Text	 Look Up! By Nathan Bryon and Dapo Adeola	 I Am Henry Finch By Alexis Deacon
Length	10 Sessions, 2 Weeks	10 Sessions, 2 Weeks
Outcomes	Narrative own version Signs and labels, thought bubbles, flyers, letters of advice	Guidebook - How to Think Timetables, thought bubbles, lists, commands, letters of advice

Theme/Term	Outside Inside - Autumn 2	Choose: 2 x Writing Roots
Writing Root/Spelling Seed Text	 Where the Wild Things Are By Maurice Sendak	 Anansi the Spider By Gerald McDermott
Length	10 Sessions, 2 Weeks	10 Sessions, 2 Weeks
Outcomes	Own version wild thing narrative Labels, captions, oral re-telling, developing a new character	Booklet about spiders Labels and captions, call-and-response poems, descriptive posters, simple explanations

Theme/Term	Talents & powers - Spring 1	Choose: 2 x Writing Roots
Writing Root/Spelling Seed Text	 Little Red By Lynn Roberts	 Super Milly and the Super School Day By Stephanie Clarkson
Length	10 Sessions, 2 Weeks	10 Sessions, 3 Weeks
Outcomes	Alternative character version Labels, notes of advice, adverts	Alternative character version Letters of encouragement; a retelling; song lyrics and job applications

Theme/Term	Sowing a seed - Spring 2	Choose: 2 x Writing Roots
Writing Root/Spelling Seed Text	 The Tiny Seed By Eric Carle	 The Extraordinary Gardener By Sam Boughton
Length	10 Sessions, 2 Weeks	10 Sessions, 2 Weeks
Outcomes	Advice leaflet Labels and captions, re-telling, writing in role, narrative, letter	Narrative inspired by the original text Labels, letters of advice, instructions, narratives

Theme/Term	Celebrating self - Summer 1	Choose: 3 x Writing Roots
Writing Root/Spelling Seed Text	 My Shadow is Pink By Scott Stuart	 A Taste of Home By Maryam Hassan
Length	10 Sessions, 2 Weeks	10 Sessions, 2 Weeks
Outcomes	Leaflet Innovated spoken rhymes, questions, notes of advice, lists, instructions	Collaborative class cookbook

Theme/Term	Family & friends - Summer 2	Choose: 3 x Writing Roots
Writing Root/Spelling Seed Text	 Hairy Maclary from Donaldson's Dairy By Lynley Dodd	 Oi Frog! By Kes Gray and Jim Field
Length	10 Sessions, 2 Weeks	10 Sessions, 2 Weeks
Outcomes	Alternative version narrative Character description, writing in role, letters, leaflet	Own version rhyming narrative Rhyming flip-books, questions, captions and labels

Year 1

Theme/Term	Journeys & exploration - Autumn 1		Theme/Term	Helpful heroes - Autumn 2	
Writing Root/Spelling Seed Text	 Naughty Bus By Jan Oke	 Astro Girl By Ken Wilson-Max	Writing Root/Spelling Seed Text	 Dragon Post By Emma Yarlett	 Leo and the Octopus By Isabelle Marinov
Length	15 Sessions, 3 Weeks	15 Sessions, 3 Weeks	Length	15 Sessions, 3 Weeks	15 Sessions, 3 Weeks
Outcomes	Own adventure story Letters, diaries, captions, fact file on buses		Outcomes	Guide on how to look after a dragon Letter asking for help, note of advice, instructions, menu, speech bubble, journey map, thought bubble	
Outcomes	Fact file about being an astronaut Writing in role, commands, how to guides		Outcomes	Fact file This is me! Posters, letters of advice, factual descriptions, logbooks, scripts	
Theme/Term	Similarities & differences - Spring 1		Theme/Term	Imagination & creativity - Spring 2	
Writing Root/Spelling Seed Text	 The Odd Egg By Emily Gravett	 The Comet By Joe Todd-Stanton	Writing Root/Spelling Seed Text	 Dadaji's Paintbrush By Rashmi Sirdeshpande	 Julian is a Mermaid By Jessica Love
Length	15 Sessions, 3 Weeks	15 Sessions, 3 Weeks	Length	10 Sessions, 2 Weeks	15 Sessions, 3 Weeks
Outcomes	Egg-spotter's guide (non-fiction report) Short guide, thought bubbles, awards, letter, predictions, congratulations cards		Outcomes	Guide book Labels, captions, character comparisons, thought and speech bubbles, a fact file	
Outcomes	Own version narrative Posters, letters of advice, poems, descriptions, writing in role, recipes		Outcomes	Three-verse poem Wishes, commands, thought bubbles, labels and adverts	
Theme/Term	Friendship & kindness - Summer 1		Theme/Term	Nature & environment - Summer 2	
Writing Root/Spelling Seed Text	 Beegu By Alexis Deacon	 Lubna and Pebble By Wendy Meddour	Writing Root/Spelling Seed Text	 Stella and the Seagull By Georgina Stevens	 The Sea Saw By Tom Percival
Length	15 Sessions, 3 Weeks	15 Sessions, 3 Weeks	Length	15 Sessions, 3 Weeks	15 Sessions, 3 Weeks
Outcomes	Own version alien narrative Posters, guides, captions, letters, speech bubbles, retellings, short report		Outcomes	Own version narrative about helping the environment Lists, thought bubbles, speech bubbles, posters, guide, instructions	
Outcomes	Own version friendship / gifting narrative Labels, thank you notes, speech bubbles, advice postcards, instructions		Outcomes	Own version narrative Writing in role, notes of advice, missing posters, diary entries, letters of thanks	

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Year 2					
Theme/Term			Theme/Term		
Bravery vs. fear - Autumn 1			A twist in the tale - Autumn 2		
Writing Root/Spelling Seed Text	 The Bear Under the Stairs By Helen Cooper	 The Bear and the Piano By David Litchfield	Writing Root/Spelling Seed Text	 Wolves By Emily Gravett	 Me and You By Anthony Browne
Length	15 Sessions, 3 Weeks		Length	15 Sessions, 3 Weeks	
Outcomes	Information text File of fears entry, letters seeking and giving advice, oral retellings		Outcomes	Non-chronological leaflet Captions, information writing, letters, warning poster, labels	
			Sequel story Wanted posters, letters, retellings, speech bubbles, retellings from another point of view		
Theme/Term			Theme/Term		
Creation & conservation - Spring 1			Change & relationships - Spring 2		
Writing Root/Spelling Seed Text	 Dear Earth By Isabel Otter and Clara Anganuzzi	 We Are Water Protectors By Carole Lindstrom	Writing Root/Spelling Seed Text	 Tadpole's Promise By Jeanne Willis	 If All the World Were... By Joseph Coelho
Length	15 Sessions, 3 Weeks		Length	15 Sessions, 3 Weeks	
Outcomes	Informative leaflet Future aspirations, a set of instructions, poems, travel blogs/vlogs, persuasive speeches, letters		Outcomes	Own version narrative / extended explanation Simple explanations, speech bubbles, setting descriptions, thought bubbles	
			Non-narrative read-aloud poem Writing in role, optional diary, letter of advice, short explanation		
Theme/Term			Theme/Term		
Fictional worlds & fantasy - Summer 1			Urban metropolis - Summer 2		
Writing Root/Spelling Seed Text	 The Dragon Machine By Helen Ward	 Lizzy and the Cloud By The Fan Brothers	Writing Root/Spelling Seed Text	 Rosie Revere, Engineer By Andrea Beaty	 Last Stop on Market Street By Matt de la Peña
Length	15 Sessions, 3 Weeks		Length	15 Sessions, 3 Weeks	
Outcomes	Own version dragon story Dragon guide and encyclopaedia, letters of advice, dragon machine explanation, shopping list, description, letters in role		Outcomes	Explanation text Short explanation, advertisement, letter of advice, school report card (character description), invention description	
			Own version narrative Metaphor poetry, simple character descriptions, interview questions, senses poetry, advert, advice slips, letter		

Year 3

Theme/Term	Magic & wonder - Autumn 1		Theme/Term	Dreams & curiosity - Autumn 2	
Writing Root/Spelling Seed Text	 The Wilderness By Steve McCarthy	 Leon and the Place Between By Angela McAllister	Writing Root/Spelling Seed Text	 The Barnabus Project By The Fan Brothers	 The Seed of Doubt By Irena Brignull
Length	15 Sessions, 3 Weeks		Length	15 Sessions, 3 Weeks	
Outcomes	A guide to enjoying the wilderness Character introductions, letter of advice, descriptive poem, SOS message, identification label		Outcomes	Brochure Instructional writing (escape plan, experiment), descriptions, advertisements, letters of advice, dialogue	
	Own version fantasy narrative Persuasive poster, performance reviews, setting description, thought bubbles / diary entry, dialogue			A motivational leaflet about future dreams and aspirations Poetry, future dreams and aspirations, setting description, letter of advice, paper aeroplane message, character description, speech	
Theme/Term	Inspiration & strength - Spring 1		Theme/Term	Hope & resilience - Spring 2	
Writing Root/Spelling Seed Text	 Cloud Tea Monkeys By Mal Peet	 Small in the City By Sydney Smith	Writing Root/Spelling Seed Text	 The Search for the Giant Arctic Jellyfish By Chloe Savage	 The Last Garden By Rachel Ip
Length	15 Sessions, 3 Weeks		Length	10 Sessions, 2 Weeks	
Outcomes	Non-chronological report Descriptive passage, writing in role, 'how to' guide (instructions), letter, discussion		Outcomes	Non-chronological report Expedition proposals, persuasive letters, letters, diary entries, poetry, speech bubbles	
	Extended narrative from an alternative point of view Setting descriptions, poems, diary entries, dialogue, letters of advice, lost posters			Own version extended narrative Setting descriptions, advertisement/poster, retelling, instructional flyer, online response, dialogue	
Theme/Term	From mystery to discovery - Summer 1		Theme/Term	Confidence & caution - Summer 2	
Writing Root/Spelling Seed Text	 Our Tower By Joseph Coelho	 Escape from Pompeii By Christina Balit	Writing Root/Spelling Seed Text	 The Thames and Tide Club By Katya Balen	 The Zebra's Great Escape By Katherine Rundell
Length	15 Sessions, 3 Weeks		Length	15 Sessions, 3 Weeks	
Outcomes	Extended fantasy narrative Poems, setting descriptions, diary entries, dialogue, letters of thanks		Outcomes	Own version fantasy narrative Persuasive letters and letters of advice, diary entries, weather reports, advertisements, dialogue	
	Newspaper report Setting descriptions, diaries, letters, thought bubbles			Own version 'great escape' narrative Detective notes, 'wanted' poster, letter, action scene, poetry, dialogue	

Year 4

Theme/Term	Taking courage - Autumn 1		Theme/Term	Darkness & light - Autumn 2	
Writing Root/Spelling Seed Text	 The Baker by the Sea By Paula White	 Shackleton's Journey By William Grill	Writing Root/Spelling Seed Text	 Frindleswyde By Natalia O'Hara and Lauren O'Hara	 The Crown By Emily Kapff
Length	15 Sessions, 3 Weeks		Length	16 Sessions, 3 Weeks	
Outcomes	Tourist brochure Job applications, advertisements, setting descriptions, letter in role		Outcomes	Narrative sequel Letters, voting slips, dialogue, poetry, birds-eye view descriptions, persuasive speeches	
	Newspaper report Packing lists (justifications), letters (formal and informal), setting descriptions, interviews, diaries, dialogue			Information text for a 'Book of Wonders' Descriptive labels, diary entry in role, descriptive poems, 'good news' posters	

Theme/Term	Freedom & flight - Spring 1		Theme/Term	Window to the world - Spring 2	
Writing Root/Spelling Seed Text	 FARThER By Grahame Baker-Smith	 Tar Beach By Faith Ringgold	Writing Root/Spelling Seed Text	 Granny Came Here on the Empire Windrush By Patrice Lawrence	 The Story of Tutankhamun By Patricia Cleveland-Peck
Length	15 Sessions, 3 Weeks		Length	15 Sessions, 3 Weeks	
Outcomes	Sequel story Retellings, recounts (postcards), setting descriptions, diary entries, instructions		Outcomes	Factual report on the Windrush Generation Informal letters, factual statements, future aspirations, postcard, diary entry, a speech, quotations	
	Narrative retelling as a play script Poetry, setting descriptions, formal letters, dialogue (as a script)			Biography of Howard Carter Non-chronological reports, instructions, character descriptions, diary entry, newspaper reports and posters	

Theme/Term	Unearthing civilisations - Summer 1		Theme/Term	Progress & innovation - Summer 2	
Writing Root/Spelling Seed Text	 Riddle of the Runes By Janina Ramirez	 The Ever-Changing Earth By Grahame Baker-Smith	Writing Root/Spelling Seed Text	 Varmints By Helen Ward	 The Iron Man By Ted Hughes
Length	15 Sessions, 3 Weeks		Length	16 Sessions, 3 Weeks	
Outcomes	Historical fiction narrative (alternative ending) Character and setting descriptions, dialogue, instructions (directions), letter		Outcomes	Explanation of a life cycle Diary entry, instructions, letter, description, speech	
	Narrative sequel as a class book Informal letters, explanatory leaflets, list poems, dictionary of terms, postcard predictions, comparison texts			Mystery narrative Character descriptions, short news report, letter of advice, diary entry, menu (using descriptive devices), logbook entry	

Year 5

Theme/Term	Ambition & aspiration - Autumn 1		Theme/Term	Belonging & equality - Autumn 2	
Writing Root/Spelling Seed Text	 Robot Girl By Malorie Blackman	 Hidden Figures By Margot Lee Shetterly	Writing Root/Spelling Seed Text	 The Lizzie and Belle Mysteries: Drama and Danger By J.T. Williams	 The Lost Thing By Shaun Tan
Length	15 Sessions, 3 Weeks		Length	15 Sessions, 3 Weeks	
Outcomes	Science-fiction narrative Discussion / debate, character comparisons, dialogue, email in role, setting description, advice letter, action scene, book review		Outcomes	Biography of Ignatius Sancho Posters, diary entries, case notes, letters, dialogue (quotations), character descriptions, fact files, persuasive speeches	
	Non-chronological report on the life and achievements of the women and history of NASA/NACA Non-chronological reports, job adverts, formal persuasive letters, informal letters, diary entries, character descriptions, opinion pieces			Own version narrative about a 'lost thing' Diary entries, formal letters, guides / non-chronological reports, adverts, official paperwork, lost tags	

St Mary Magdalene's RC Primary School – English (Writing) Curriculum Map 2026-2027

Theme/Term	Legends & folklore - Spring 1		Theme/Term	Lessons from history - Spring 2	
Writing Root/Spelling Seed Text	 Rumaysa: A Fairy Tale By Radiya Hafiza	 The Whale By Ethan and Vita Murrow	Writing Root/Spelling Seed Text	 Anne Frank By Josephine Poole	 Children of the Benin Kingdom By Dinah Orji
Length	15 Sessions, 3 Weeks	15 Sessions, 3 Weeks	Length	10 Sessions, 2 Weeks	15 Sessions, 3 Weeks
Outcomes	Fairy tale reworking (prequel) Warning poster, diary entry, dialogue, villain's lair advert, character description, missing narrative	Film pitch Reported speech, speech and thought bubbles, description, recount in role, letter to a newspaper editor	Outcomes	Newspaper article Letters, short descriptions, extended diary entries, obituary, optional opinion piece	Non-chronological report Informal letters, contrasting diary entries, survival guides, eyewitness reports, story summaries

Theme/Term	Power vs. principles - Summer 1		Theme/Term	Mystery & truth - Summer 2	
Writing Root/Spelling Seed Text	 The Island By Armin Greder	 The Man Who Walked Between the Towers By Modicai Gerstein	Writing Root/Spelling Seed Text	 High Rise Mystery By Sharma Jackson	 The Cave Explorer By Kate Winter
Length	15 Sessions, 3 Weeks	15 Sessions, 3 Weeks	Length	15 Sessions, 3 Weeks	15 Sessions, 3 Weeks
Outcomes	Narrative sequel from a different character's perspective Welcome guide, description, letter of advice, analysis, comparison, diary entry in role, imagined conversation	Biography Fact files, journalistic writing, setting descriptions, letters of advice, persuasive speeches	Outcomes	Extended Narrative Character Description, Police Report, Setting Description, Newspaper Article, Dialogue, Formal Persuasive Letter	Tourist Leaflet for the Lascaux Caves Debate, opinion piece (blog post), diary entry, newspaper report, non-chronological report, poetry

