

# Year 5 and 6: Stargazers

## Spring 2<sup>nd</sup> half term

### English

In English, we will start the term with a discussion topic. We will identify different viewpoints and then through thorough planning, create a balanced argument within a discussion piece of writing. Throughout the unit, we will be exposed to many different discussion pieces to build our awareness of this text type.

Our second unit of work in English will be explanation texts, where we will learn to use technical vocabulary, conjunctions and diagrams to explain how an aspect of Space works.

### Maths

We will be applying our knowledge of multiplying and dividing by 10, 100 and 1000 when converting between units. We will also be solving problems involving perimeter, area and volume. Leading up to Easter, we will develop our understanding of working with and reading statistics. Throughout this half term, we will be rehearsing our arithmetic.

### Hook day

Our **Hook Day** will be **Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> February**. We'll be stepping into space, gazing at the stars and learning about the planets. Each class will have a session in a **SPACE DOME** <http://www.explorerdome.co.uk/> led by experts in astronomy. We will also be painting space inspired abstract art and making up mnemonics to remember the order of the planets in our solar system. Children need to come to school as normal, in uniform.



### Topic

In topic, we will be learning about influential figures in the history and understanding of space and their impacts on the world. We will also be describing and identifying physical and human geography in images taken from the international space station.

#### Innovate...

Explorer Dome are hiring! There is a job vacancy for a presenter to tour the country and visit schools with the dome. You must prepare for the presentation part of your interview, conveying how knowledgeable you are on relevant topics! (Written script, bullet points, cue cards, story map, mind map...). We will then hold the interviews with a panel of judges. Shortlist finalists in classes (secret vote) and pair up with Year 3/4 classes to present talks.

### Science

In Science, we will be learning about the Sun, Moon and the planets in our solar system. We will discover their size, how they move, the orbit and phases of the moon and why we have seasons. We'll go on to understand what gravity is and the difference between weight and mass.

### Other subjects

PE - We will be practising our ball and bat skills in rounders. We will also be developing our tag rugby technique and considering strategy in match play.

Music - We will be studying Holst's 'Planets Suite'. We'll understand what an 'ostinato' is and how Holst used it in his music. We'll be comparing classical music to famous film music. We'll then use our learning to compose and play our own piece of music.

French - We'll translate the story of Little Red Riding Hood then adapt and change it to write a short story, in French, of our own.

### RE

In RE, we will be focusing our studies around the question '*Is Christianity still a strong religion over 2000 years after Jesus was on Earth?*'. We will consider who inspires us, how Christians celebrate and the impact that Christianity has on us and the wider community.

### PSHE

PSHE - 'Healthy Me' - we will be considering the health implications of smoking and drinking alcohol, looking at how bodies are portrayed in the media and finishing off by considering how to lead a healthy life, physically and mentally.

### Recommended reading list

Northern Lights	Philip Pullman
Alone on a Wide Wide Sea	Michael Morpurgo
Cosmic	Frank Cottrell Boyce
You do the Maths: Launch a Rocket into Space	Hilary Koll
Charlie and the Great Glass Elevator	Roald Dahl
Solar System: Fascinating Facts	Collins
The Usborne Official Astronaut's Handbook	Louie Stowell
The King of Space	Jonny Duddle
Astronomy (Usborne Discovery)	Rachel Firth
Explorers on the Moon	Hergé
Neil Armstrong and Travelling to the Moon	Ben Hubbard
Bloomsbury Discovery: Space	Bill Boo
See Inside the Universe	Alex Frith
Why is There Life on Earth?	Andrew Solway
Knowledge Encyclopedia: Space!	DK
Moon Tales	Rina Singh
Moontellers: Myths of the moon from Around the World	Lynn Moroney