

Curriculum Overview

Academic Year: 2025-2026	Year 1 and 2 Beech Class					
Term	Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Spring 1	Spring 2	Summer 1	Summer 2
TOPIC History / Geography 	Our Local Area This half-term, children will learn about the United Kingdom (its four countries, capital cities, and surrounding seas) before focusing on Little Hadham. They will explore its human and physical features, use maps to locate them, and take part in fieldwork to observe and record what they see. Key Question: How can maps and fieldwork help us understand Little Hadham?	Guy Fawkes and the Gunpowder Plot The Gunpowder Plot of 1605 was a failed attempt to blow up the Houses of Parliament and assassinate King James I. Guy Fawkes was caught guarding the gunpowder, and the plot was foiled before it could succeed. Key Question: Why do we remember Guy Fawkes and the Gunpowder Plot?	United Kingdom and London Children will learn about the United Kingdom, including its four countries and their capital cities, with a particular focus on London. They will explore key features of the capital, such as important buildings, landmarks, and the River Thames, to understand its role as a major city in the UK. Key Question: What makes London an important city in the United Kingdom?	The Royal Family Children will learn about the Royal Family, exploring who they are, their roles, and why they are important in the United Kingdom. They will discover the difference between ceremonial duties and symbolic roles, and how the Royal Family represents the country at important events and in traditions. Key Question: What do you think a Royal Family is?	World - Biomes Around the World Children will learn about different biomes across the world, such as deserts, rainforests, tundra, and grasslands. They will explore how climate, plants, and animals vary between these regions and how people adapt their way of life to suit each environment. Key Question: How do different biomes shape the plants, animals, and people that live there?	Great Engineers - Isambard Kingdom Brunel Children will learn about Isambard Kingdom Brunel, a famous engineer whose inventions and projects transformed transport and industry in Britain. They will explore his achievements, including bridges, railways, and ships, and how his work changed people's lives and the way the country connected. Key Question: What did Isambard Kingdom Brunel achieve in his lifetime?



D&T	Yr 1 Sliders and Levers Sliders and levers are simple mechanisms used to create moving parts in projects like a Christmas card. By incorporating these mechanisms, we can make parts of the card move or pop up, adding an interactive and festive element. Understanding how to use sliders and levers helps us create engaging and fun designs. Key Question: How do we use sliders and levers to create a Christmas card?		Yr 1 Fruit Salad -Food Preparing fruit and vegetables for a fruit salad involves selecting, washing, cutting, and mixing different ingredients to create a healthy and tasty dish. Understanding these basic food preparation skills helps us learn about healthy eating and kitchen safety. Key Question: How do we prepare fruit and vegetables to make a fruit salad?		Yr 1- Wheels and Axels Wheels and axles are fundamental mechanisms that help make movement easier in many types of machines and vehicles. By understanding how wheels and axles work, we can create simple moving projects and see how these mechanisms improve function and efficiency. Key Question: How do wheels and axles work in simple machines?	
	Y2 Freestanding Structures (DT) Freestanding structures are buildings or objects that stand on their own without needing support from other structures. Understanding how these structures are designed and built helps us learn about the principles of stability and balance. Key Question: What are freestanding structures and how do they work?				Y2 Textiles- Templates and joining techniques Creating a hand puppet involves using templates to cut out fabric pieces and joining techniques to assemble them into a functional and fun puppet. By learning these skills, we can make custom hand puppets with different shapes, colours, and features. Key Question: How do we use templates and joining techniques to create a hand puppet?	
ART	Paul Klee (Y1) Drawing Paul Klee was a renowned artist known for his unique style that combined abstraction, colour, and whimsical forms. By exploring Klee's techniques, we can create our own artwork		Painting LS Lowry and Brueghel the Elder Painting (Y1) L.S. Lowry and Pieter Bruegel the Elder were both renowned for their distinctive painting styles. Lowry is known for his urban scenes featuring matchstick figures and industrial landscapes, while Bruegel the Elder is celebrated for his detailed depictions of peasant life and complex, bustling		Van Gogh Colour Work (Y1) Vincent van Gogh is famous for his vibrant use of colour and expressive brushstrokes. His painting "Sunflowers" is a great example of how bold colours and dynamic textures can bring a subject to life. By exploring Van Gogh's colour techniques, we can create our own artwork inspired by his sunflower paintings. Key Question: How can we use Van	

inspired by his use of shapes, lines, and colours. Key Question: How can we use Paul Klee's art techniques to create our own artwork? Georges Seurat Painting (Y2) Georges Seurat was a French artist known for developing the technique of pointillism, where small dots of colour are applied to create vibrant and detailed images. By exploring Seurat's techniques, we can create our own artwork using similar methods. Key Question: How can we use Georges Seurat's painting techniques to create our own art?  scenes. By exploring their techniques, we can create our own artwork inspired by their unique styles. Key Question: How can we use the painting techniques of L.S. Lowry and Pieter Bruegel the Elder to create our own art?  Barbara Hepworth's Sculpture Barbara Hepworth was a renowned sculptor known for her abstract, organic forms and her use of positive and negative space. Her work often involved smooth, rounded shapes and carved, hollowed spaces. By exploring Hepworth's techniques, we can create our own sculptures that reflect her innovative approach to form and texture.  Gogh's colour techniques to create our own artwork inspired by sunflowers? Mondrian Lines, shapes and texture (Y2) Piet Mondrian is renowned for his abstract compositions using geometric shapes, primary colours, and bold lines. His artwork often features a grid-like structure with a clear emphasis on horizontal and vertical lines, creating a sense of order and balance. By exploring Mondrian's techniques, we can create our own artwork focusing on lines, shapes, and texture. Key Question: How can we use Mondrian's techniques with lines, shapes, and texture to create our own artwork?						
MUSIC 	Exploring Rhythm and Beat	Musical performance	Singing and Vocal Exploration	Introduction to Music Genres	Creating Simple Rhythmic Patterns	Understanding Music through Stories

	Introduce basic concepts of rhythm and beat using clapping, tapping, and simple percussion instruments.	Learn songs and dances for our end of term show	Description: Practice singing simple songs, exploring pitch, volume, and rhythm. Introduce basic vocal techniques and group singing.	Description: Discover various music genres (e.g., classical, jazz, folk) and their characteristics through listening and movement activities.	Description: Use body percussion, clapping, and simple instruments to create and perform rhythmic patterns and sequences.	Description: Explore how music can tell a story by listening to pieces of music and creating simple soundscapes or stories with different sounds.
ENGLISH 	Year 1 Labels captions, simple sentences. Narrative writing. Key text: We are going on a lion hunt. Year 2 Character description. Key Text: The Storm Whale.	Year 1 Poetry and story writing-setting. Key texts: Whatever next and the Gingerbread man. Year 2 Diary entry Key text: And do the adventure begins.	Year 1- Non-Fiction Diary Key text: The Bog Baby Year 2 Nonfiction recount. Key text: When I was a child.	Year 1- Instruction writing Key text: The most magnificent thing. Year 2- Story writing- alternative endings Key text: The lost happy endings.	Year 1- Non-chronological report Key text: What a waste Year 2- Poetry Key text: Poems from a green blue planet.	Year 1- Story writing- alternative endings Key text: Mixed up fairy tales. Year 2- Key text: An engineer like me.
MATHS 	Place value Addition and subtraction Geometry		Money Place value Addition and subtraction Multiplication and addition Length and height Mass, capacity and temperature		Fractions Time Statistics Position and direction	
RE Christianity & Buddhism	Year 1 - Christianity Does God want Christians to look after the world?		Year 1- Christianity Was it always easy for Jesus to show friendship?		Year 1- Judaism Is Shabbat important to Jewish children? .	

			Why was Jesus welcomed like a king or celebrity by the crowds on Palm Sunday? Are Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur important to Jewish children?			
	Year 2- Christianity Is it possible to be kind to everyone all of the time? What can I learn from stories from religious traditions? Should people follow religious leaders and teachings? Why do Christians believe God gave Jesus to the world? Is God important to everyone?		Year 2- Judaism How important is it for Jewish people to do what God asks them to do? Is God important to everyone? Islam- Does praying at regular intervals help a Muslim in his/her everyday life?		Year 2- Judaism How special is the relationship Jews have with God? Islam- Does completing Hajj make a person a better Muslim?	
PSHE 	Me and My Relationships	Valuing Difference	Keeping Safe	Rights and Respect	Being My Best	Growing and Changing
PE 	Forest Ball Skills Dance	Forest Invasion Games Gymnastics	Forest Fitness Dance	Forest Football Yoga	Forest Netball Wallball	Forest Striking & Fielding Games Athletics
COMPUTING 	What is a computer?	Animate with Shapes	My Online Life	Code a Story	Making Games	Presentations and Typing

SCIENCE Y1 	Animals, including humans Identifying Different Animals and Their Habitats	Seasonal Changes Identifying Seasons and Their Characteristics	Revision	Revision	Everyday Materials Identifying and Naming Materials	Plants Identifying Parts of a Plant:
Science Y2	Uses of Everyday Materials Exploring the Properties of Materials	Revision	Revision	Animals, including humans & Healthy Eating Understanding Animal and Human Basic Needs	Plants Understanding Plant Lifecycles:	Living Things and their habitats Identifying and Classifying Habitats.
SCIENTIST Y1	Painting (Gérard de Lairese - Allegory of the Five Senses	John Audubon			John Dunlop	
Y2		John McAdam.		Jane Goodall	George Washington Carver	