

Daily and Extended Homework

As you are already aware, we will be moving onto 'Animals and their living habitats' this half term!

As I have chosen this half term's topic, I wanted the children to have as much say as possible. So, as usual, the class discussed and have agreed the extended homework that they would like to do, as well as how long they would like to complete the task that they choose. Please note that, as a class, the children wanted to **choose just 1 of the following options** for their homework. This is their chance to show off their individual styles and approaches to learning and presenting their work to myself and their friends.

Daily Homework	
Reading	Reading nightly, with a comment in the reading book please
Writing	Writing stories / individual sentences applying some of the words from the Year 3 and 4 spelling list handed out last term. Please reinforce these spellings at home – It will really help their English work.
Mathematics	Practising multiplications –with a particular focus on their x4, x6, x7, x8 and x9 times tables and related division facts. (3 times a week).We will be moving onto the x8 and, hopefully, x9 times tables this half term, but it is important to revisit that others.

Extended Homework

You will only need to complete **ONE** of these activities over the next 4 weeks (please read below for details):

<p>Make a model of an animal in its natural habitat (Art / Science / D&T)</p> <p>Choose an interesting animal and design a model of it in its natural habitat.</p>	<p>Draw an animal and write a description about its life/habitat/young etc. (English / Art / Science)</p> <p>Research an animal that interests you and find out as much as you can about it.</p>	<p>Create your own animal fact file (Art / History / ICT)</p> <p>On your computer, or by hand, choose an animal's family (Reptiles / Amphibians / Mammals etc.) and create your own fact file.</p>
<p>Design a poster on an endangered animal (Art / ICT / English)</p> <p>Produce a poster that encourages people to look after an endangered animal. A list of these can be found on the internet.</p>	<p>Write a diary entry as a zookeeper (English / Science / PSHE)</p> <p>Imagine that you a zookeeper and you have had a bit of a stressful day! What happened? Tell me about it in a diary!</p>	<p>Write a newspaper report on the finding of animal fossils (History / Art / English)</p> <p>You might want to research real fossils that have been found to help you, or you can make up your own fossil finding to write your newspaper report.</p>

The 'hand-in' date for each child's homework is **Monday 19th March 2017**. We chose this date because we felt that we would then be able to share each other's homework and have them on display a little longer.

I cannot stress enough how this should be the children's work, and not something that they are unable to read out or explain to the class. Please bare this in mind when working with them at home.

The children have also agreed that their work should include:

Your own, best work	Work on the computer (if needed)
Things you've learnt at home and school	Lots of creativity and imagination!

The Parents' Role in Extended Homework

DO	DON'T
Know what they are learning about	Talk about how 'homework was different in your day'
Listen to them read every day	Multitask as you listen
Ask them questions so that they expand their thinking about the challenge e.g. What...? When...? Where...? Why...? Who...? How...?	Show off your knowledge about the subject matter
Give them varied experiences so that they can choose different ways of achieving the task	Make it all about expense (sometimes the cheapest ideas are the best:))
Be willing to support their activity by listening to their ideas and suggesting ways forward	Complete it for them
Show them they can achieve	Ignore the things they can't do – instead help them to find a way of overcoming the obstacle for themselves

If you have any questions please feel free to contact me or see me after school.

Thank you for your continued support, as always.

Yours sincerely,

Miss S. Dow
Class teacher