



Year 4

Term 2 & 3 English Genre Overview

2023-24

Year Group	Weeks 17- 24	Weeks 25 - 28	Weeks 29 - 34
4	Mystery story - Beowulf	Explanation texts – The Digestive System	Adventure stories

Mystery stories

Year 4 will be exposed to the mystery story 'Beowulf' in their first fiction unit of this term. They will look at how characters behave in this story and the techniques the author uses to build suspense and tension. Students will then have the opportunity to write their own mystery story using the skills they have learnt throughout the unit.

Success Criteria

- I can plan a compelling and engaging mystery plot with a clear beginning, middle, and end.
- I can create well-developed and interesting characters that play essential roles in solving the mystery.
- I can effectively use descriptive language to set the scene and create a vivid atmosphere in my mystery story.
- I can include similes to describe the setting and characters in the story.
- I can use dialogue appropriately to reveal character personalities and advance the plot.

Explanation Texts

Year 4 learn to identify the main purpose of an explanation text, understanding how to convey information in a clear and concise manner. They will be required to use age-appropriate language and vocabulary to explain concepts, ensuring that their writing is accessible and engaging for the reader. Students will practice organising their explanation texts with a well-defined structure, including a clear introduction, detailed body, and a conclusion that summarises key points.

Success Criteria

- I can identify the main purpose of an explanation text.
- I can use appropriate language and vocabulary to explain a concept clearly.
- I can organise my explanation text with a clear introduction, body, and conclusion.
- I can include relevant details and examples to support my explanation.
- I can use cohesive devices, such as linking words and phrases, to connect ideas within my explanation text.
- I can use accurate grammar, punctuation, and spelling in my writing.

- I can present my explanation text orally, using confident and expressive language, to effectively communicate my ideas.

Adventure Stories

For the final fiction unit this term, Year 4 will look at adventure stories. This is a dynamic and imaginative unit that encourages students to unleash their creativity and develop essential writing skills. Students will learn to create captivating plots with a clear beginning, middle, and end. They will understand the importance of building tension and suspense to keep readers engaged. Students will expand their vocabulary, experimenting with powerful and descriptive language. They will explore the use of figurative language, such as similes and metaphors, to create vivid imagery.

Success Criteria

- I can create a captivating opening that grabs the reader's attention and sets the scene for the adventure.
- I can develop interesting characters, including a protagonist and antagonist, with clear personalities, motivations, and roles in the story.
- I can build a well-structured plot with a clear beginning, middle, and end, including rising action, climax, and resolution.
- I can use descriptive language and vivid imagery to paint a picture of the settings, helping readers to visualise and engage with the story.
- I can incorporate dialogue effectively to reveal character traits, advance the plot, and make the story more engaging.