

Spring 1 2026

# Who's Afraid of the Dark

Holly Class  
6 week study

## What's it all about ?

In this topic your child will:

- learn about nocturnal woodland creatures, in particular owls.
- learn about light and dark and how we can use technology to discover new things.
- act out parts from the story 'Owl Babies'.
- also be exploring the story of the 'Enormous Turnip'.

**Key Vocabulary-** owl, owlet, wings, talons, nocturnal, habitat, nest, woodland, dark, light, carnivore.



## Curriculum Focus (EYFS):

**Personal, Social and Emotional development:** Children will be able to:

- express their feelings and consider the feelings of others.
- think about the perspectives of others.
- understand how others might be feeling.
- find solutions to conflict and rivalries.

**Literacy:** Children will be able to:

- blend sounds together to read simple words and sentences.
- share books in groups and talk about characters and settings in stories.
- discuss non-fiction books and their layout.
- write letters in response to sounds they hear; form letters correctly.
- write speech bubbles, labels, captions and information posters.

**Mathematics:** Children will learn to:

- subitise.
- play games and sing number songs to develop understanding of adding and subtracting.
- record their thinking, beginning to write the numbers using the correct formation.
- solve practical problems involving addition and subtraction.
- order objects by size and length.
- recognise 2D and 3D shapes.

## Outcome:

At the end of the topic your child will be able to act out parts of the story, describe characters, recognise words and phrases from the story.

## Ways to support your child at home: (EYFS)

- ❖ Help your child to recognise and write the numbers to 15 and their values - carry out a number hunt, which numbers can you find? Can you make the number 12 out of blocks? How much bigger is a block of 14?
- ❖ Play board games using dice, helping children to count on as they move their counters etc.
- ❖ Share your child's school reading book and write a comment in their reading diary.
- ❖ Find out about different forest animals. Are there any other nocturnal animals? Can you find some facts about owls and bring them into share with everybody else?

In addition to the topic based learning in EYFS, your child will also be learning...

**Expressive Arts and Design:** Pupils will learn how to:

- create an owl collage, using a variety of materials to create collage for different types of owl.
- make and decorate clay owls.
- create music to accompany our stories - what noise does an owl make?

**Understanding the World:** Pupils will investigate:

- How do we create darkness and light?
- What can we find out about woodland creatures and nocturnal animals?
- What animals will we find in our wild area? Would there be more at night? Why?

**Physical Development:** Pupils will learn how to:

- write recognisable letters.
- travel with confidence and skill; over, under and through balancing and climbing equipment.
- use different tools correctly and safely.

# Toys

## What's it all about ?

In this topic your child will

- learn to talk about toys in the past and present.
- start their with a 'Toy Day' where children can bring in a favourite toy of their own to talk about.



## Curriculum Focus (KS1):

### In History children will learn:

- describe toys in the past and present.
- ask questions about toys in the past.

**Key Vocabulary** - toy, Victorian, plastic, family, generation, teddy, wood, doll, rich, poor, wealth, difference, skipping rope, car, train, hoop, spinning top, jacks, marbles

### In Art children will learn:

- about Gaudi and his art work.
- how to use clay to create a piece of art.

**Key Vocabulary**- observational, pencil - HB, B, 2B, 4B, shading, shape, texture

sculpture, shape, pattern, texture, colour, form, design, imprint

### In D.T children will:

- make a moving vehicle with wheels which turn on an axle.

**Key Vocabulary**- axle, wheel, move, fixed, moving, axle holder, doweling, vehicle



## Ways to support your child at home: (KS1)

- Find out about a Grandparent's toys.
- Read at least 3 times a week with your child.
- Practise weekly spellings.
- Share your child's school reading book and write a comment in their reading diary

In addition to the topic based learning outlined above for KS1, your child will also be learning...

In English the children will re-tell traditional tales, write reports and explanations.

In Maths the children will recognise numbers to 75, add and subtract, count in steps of 2 and 10 and learn more about place value.

In Science the children will learn about animal life cycles.

In R.E. the children will learn about Holi.

In P.E. the children will develop dynamic and static balances and improve hockey skills.

In P.S.H.E. the children will learn that 'Too Much Selfie isn't Healthy'.

## Focus Author:

This half term we are reading texts by Rebecca Cobb.



## Outcome:

At the end of the topic, the children will be able to talk about toys in the past and present.