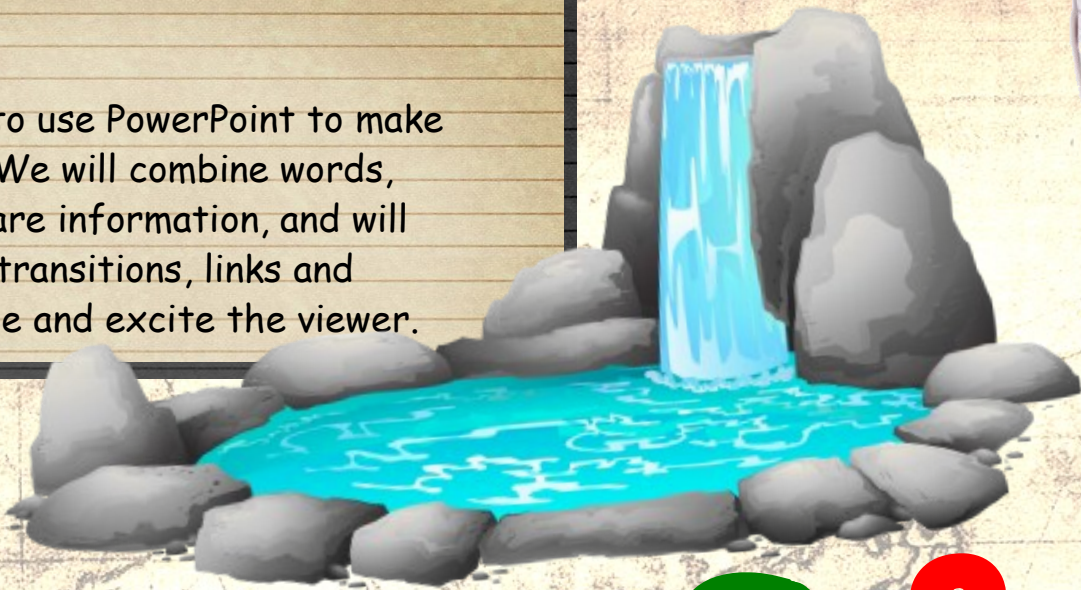


## PE

We will be developing our coordination, agility and fitness through cricket and athletics this term. In cricket we will focus on our ability to bowl accurately, and in athletics we will develop our ability to jump, run and throw.

## Computing

This term, we will learn to use PowerPoint to make engaging presentations. We will combine words, images and sounds to share information, and will explore the use of page transitions, links and different fonts to engage and excite the viewer.



This half-term, we'll be learning about...

# RIVERS & MOUNTAINS

FOXES - SUMMER 2026

## Science

### Changing materials

We will begin by looking at different ways in which we can sort and group materials. We will then investigate the way that materials change when mixed with water - which dissolve, which float, which form a paste... and why? We will explore the way that we can separate mixtures and learn about the difference between reversible and irreversible changes.

## The Arts

In DT, we will be constructing models of river and mountain systems from a variety of materials. We will work in pairs to create table-top mountains from paper mache, as well as working in larger groups to construct larger (and wetter) representations of river systems from guttering, pipes and buckets of water!

## Maths

We will start the term by developing our understanding of area, estimating and calculating the space inside rectangles by multiplying side lengths. We will also learn to work backwards to find missing side lengths when given the area. After that, we will be introduced to the idea of percentages, linking these to our knowledge of fractions (using the key relationship that  $1\% = 1/100 = 0.01$ ). We will learn to calculate percentages of numbers and amounts and use bar models to help us solve percentage problems. Later in the term we will be exploring 3d shapes, summarising their properties, revising key vocabulary, linking 3d models to 2d drawings and investigating nets.

## Humanities

### Geography

This half-term we will focus on geography, starting by looking at major rivers around the world and discovering why they are so significant for the people and around them. We will look at different parts of river systems, understanding how they are formed, how they change over time, and how they interact with the landscapes they travel through. Following on from this, we will be focussing on mountain environments, locating the world's major mountains and ranges on a variety of maps. We will discover the ways in which mountain ranges are formed and the reasons why they are found in particular parts of the world. We will round-off our unit by exploring the impact that humans are having on river and mountain environments around the world.

## English

Our first unit is based around *The Misadventures of Frederick* by Ben Manley. This story is written as a collection of letters between Frederick and his friend Emily, and we will use it to focus on persuasive writing techniques. We will investigate the use of hyperbole and modal verbs, and will then use these skills to write our persuasive letters to Miss Shaw.

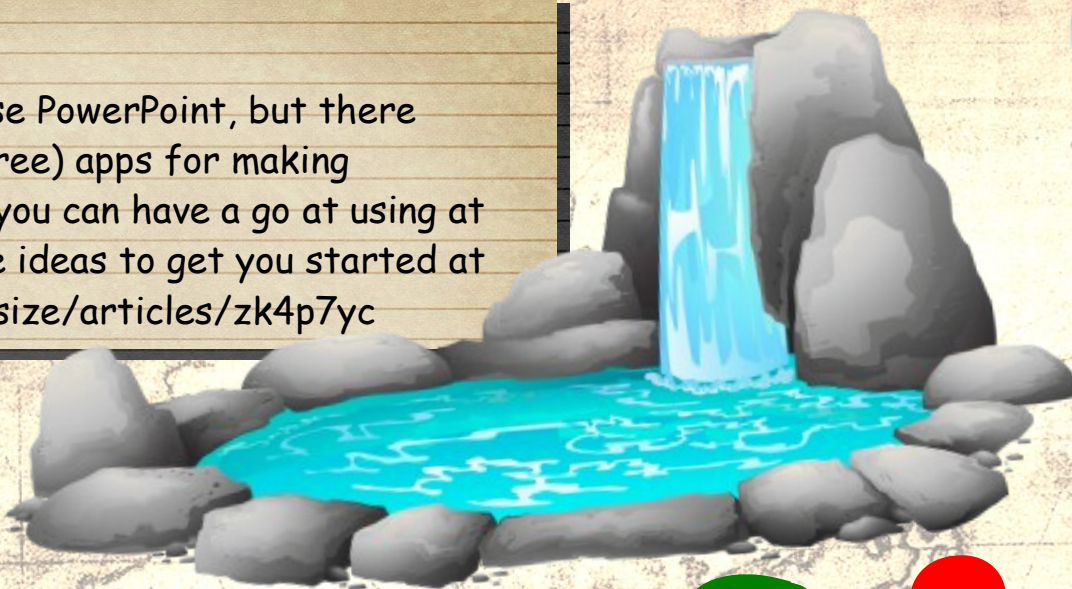
Later in the term we will return to story writing, using the story of *The Watchtower* by Gary Crew to explore the way that authors introduce characters. We will then experiment with different ways in which to add suspense to our writing, building up to writing exciting (and occasionally scary) descriptive recounts.

## PE

Keeping fit, happy and healthy is always important. There are links to lots of great resources and workouts to help everyone in the family get active at [www.sportengland.org/jointhemovement](http://www.sportengland.org/jointhemovement)

## Computing

- We're learning to use PowerPoint, but there are lots of other (free) apps for making presentations that you can have a go at using at home, and there are ideas to get you started at [www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/articles/zk4p7yc](http://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/articles/zk4p7yc)



Ideas for supporting learning at home:

# RIVERS & MOUNTAINS

FOXES - SUMMER 2026

## Science

- Keep a look out for examples of changing materials in everyday life. Cooking is great for this - which materials mix well together? Which dissolve in water (like salt or sugar)? Which are easy to separate (often with a sieve) and which are tricky? Can you spot any patterns in what you observe or predict what might happen next?

## The Arts

There are lots of ways you could create artwork linked to our Rivers and Mountains topic at home. Try these sites to get started:

- [barleyandbirch.com/make-torn-paper-landscape-art/](http://barleyandbirch.com/make-torn-paper-landscape-art/)
- [www.tate.org.uk/kids/make](http://www.tate.org.uk/kids/make)
- [www.sciencebuddies.org/stem-activities/build-river-model](http://www.sciencebuddies.org/stem-activities/build-river-model)

## Maths

Quick recall of tables facts continues to be vital for so much of the maths we do, so keep practicing at home as much as possible. Focus on one table at a time and try:

- Making-up rhymes to help remember number facts ("4 x 6 is 24, bears growl and lions roar!")
- Looking for numbers in that table in the world around you - on doors, car number plates, in phone numbers or when you're out shopping.
- Writing-out tables with finger paints, chalk or water-on-tarmac, or make them from playdoh.
- Chanting, singing, whispering... Say tables out loud together whenever you have the chance.

## Humanities

- We're disappointingly short on rivers and mountains in our part of Hertfordshire, so if the opportunity arrives for a visit to an interesting riverside (on the way back from a day out or just for a Sunday afternoon walk), that'd be great. If you've ever been to the Alps, Scottish Highlands or anywhere else mountainous, sharing your experiences (and, better still, photos) would really help us to better understand what these environments are like.
- Learning where all of the places we're learning about actually are is a really important part of this topic, so break out a map or globe and track down the Himalayas, Andes, Alps, Nile, Amazon, Congo and other major mountains and rivers of the world.

## English

- Constant practice of reading - and discussion of what's been read - is just about the most valuable thing you can do at home. Try to listen to your child as often as possible and talk to them about what's happened so far and what they think might happen next.
- Spelling homework goes out every Thursday, so please help your child to learn these. You can find more advice on supporting spelling at: [www.bedwell.herts.sch.uk/learning/spelling\\_strategies.pdf](http://www.bedwell.herts.sch.uk/learning/spelling_strategies.pdf)
- Later in the term we'll be exploring the way that authors create suspense in their writing, so look out for tense or dramatic moments in books, films and TV - how have these feelings been created?