



## As talkers and listeners

### we will:

- Ask and answer questions about our experiences of winter, to build confidence in speaking and listening.
- Go on a winter walk and use descriptive and exciting vocabulary to describe what we see.
- Sequence events, such as the life cycle of a penguin, or the events in Mr Wolf's Pancakes, and talk about what happens first, next and last.
- Learn how to find information in non-fiction books and using pictures, labels and simple text to support understanding.
- Take part in listening games like Snowman Says to practise attention and following instructions.
- Learn and use new winter-related vocabulary through stories, play and discussions.
- Talk about our own experiences and feelings linked to winter, snow and celebrations.
- Develop conversation skills through role play, such as pretending to be polar animals and talking about what they can see, hear, feel, taste and smell.
- Listen to stories and joining in with repeated language and familiar phrases.
- Explore non-fiction books and talk about facts we have learned about cold places and polar animals.
- Take part in group discussions and circle time activities to practise turn-taking, listening to others and responding appropriately.

# Spring 1

## Our Big Question in

### Nursery:

## Why is it so cold?



### The questions we will be answering are:

How do I know it's winter?

Are we prepared to explore in the cold?

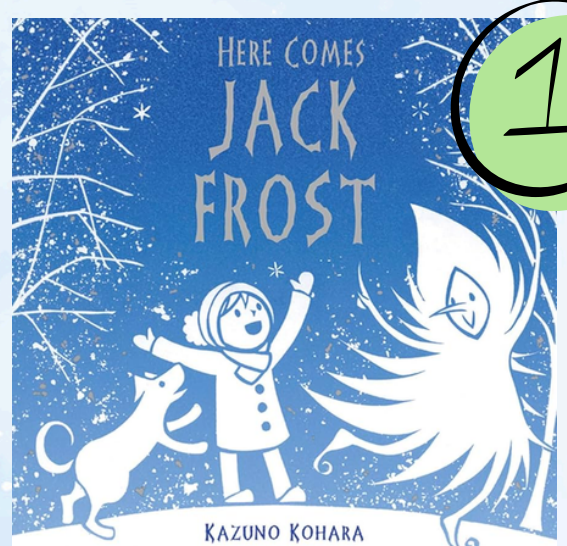
How do people live in cold places?

Which animals live in the cold?

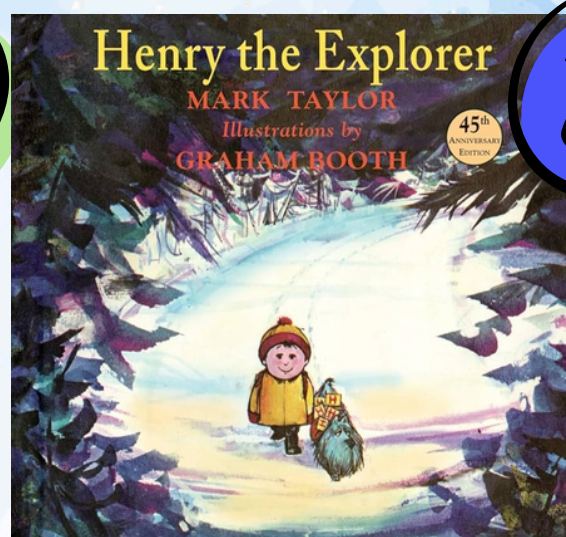
What's happening to the polar bears home?

\*Why do we eat pancakes on Shrove Tuesday?

### The books we'll be looking at are:



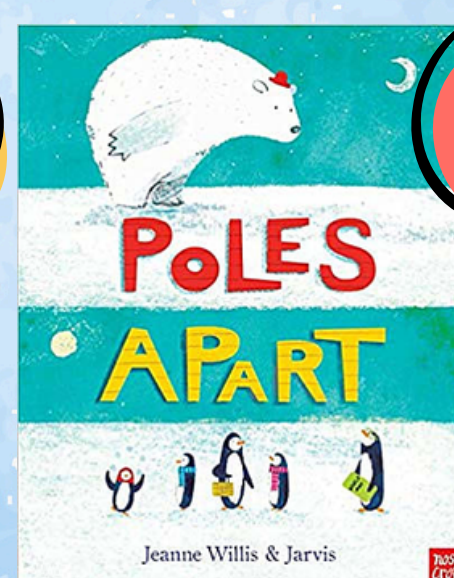
1



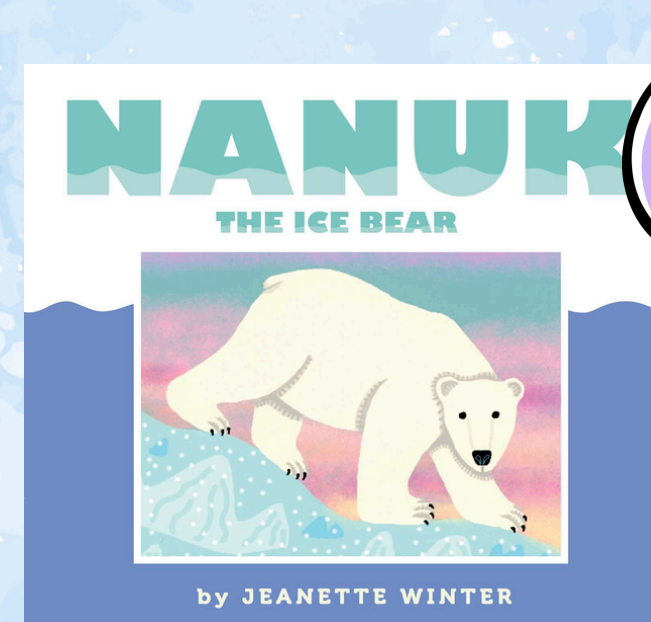
2



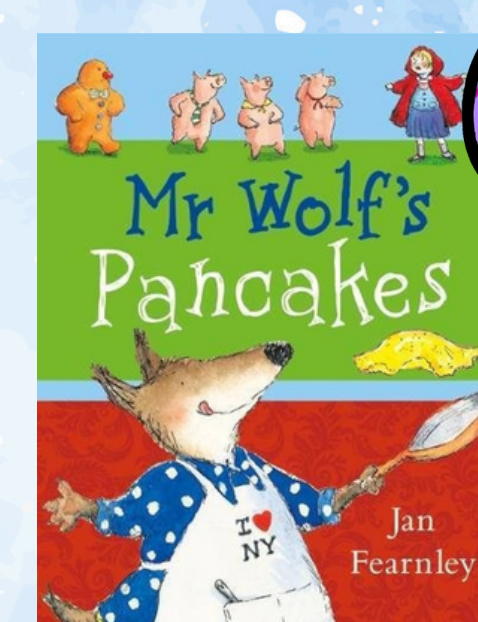
3



4



5



6

...plus lots of other exciting books during story time

## For developing our gross and fine

### motor skills, we will:



- Move our bodies in different ways, such as twirling, spinning and dancing like falling snowflakes.
- Practise putting on and fastening winter clothing, including coats, hats, scarves, gloves and boots, to build independence.
- Take part in winter-themed relay races and outdoor movement games.
- Explore running, jumping and moving outdoors in cold weather and talking about how exercise makes our bodies feel.
- Develop fine motor skills by using tools such as tweezers, tongs and scissors to add details to models, cut snowflakes and build small structures such as igloo.
- Build and balance using a range of materials, including ice cubes, sugar cubes or construction resources, to create igloos and towers.
- Play movement and imagination games, such as pretending to be penguins, jumping onto "icebergs" and working together to stay safe.
- Practise balance, throwing and aiming skills by standing on "icebergs" and throwing "snowballs" into hoops or buckets.
- Take part in activities that strengthen hand and finger muscles through dough play, collage and creative construction.
- Skip, hop, stand on one leg and hold a pose for a game like musical statues.
- Help to mix pancake batter using large spoons and practise pouring, strengthening fine and gross motor skills.



## As mathematicians, we will:

- Recognise, extend and create simple AB patterns
- Notice and correct errors in simple AB patterns.
- Subitising the number 3, using dice, and different sizes and pattern configurations.
- Recognising the numeral 3, showing 3 on our fingers, counting 3 objects and exploring the composition of 3.
- We will then do the same for the numbers 4 and 5.
- Exploring the numberblocks 3, 4 and 5, and making our own numberblocks.
- Learning about triangles- a shape with 3 sides.
- Learning about squares and rectangles- shapes with 4 sides.

## To develop our PSED we will:



- Talk about making healthy choices (link to maths- fruit pattern kebabs, pancake day)
- Learn how to keep themselves safe and well in winter, including how to stay warm through clothing, food and movement.
- Explore different items of winter clothing and talking about which parts of the body they help to keep warm.
- Develop perseverance by trying again when activities feel tricky (such as doing zips on winter coats) and learning that effort helps them to succeed.
- Take part in circle time games and group activities that support turn-taking, sharing and listening to others.
- Talk about their own feelings and experiences of winter, snow and seasonal celebrations.
- Learn about potential dangers linked to snow and ice and how to stay safe.
- Work together in pairs and small groups during games and challenges, learning how to cooperate and support one another.
- Use kind words and positive attitudes to encourage friends and build confidence.
- Take turns role-playing the characters from Mr Wolf's Pancakes, learning about sharing, kindness and helping others.

# Spring 1

## Our Big Question in Nursery:

### Why is it so cold?



## Exploring the world, we will:

- Take part in the Big Garden Birdwatch and identify common birds
- Learn that winter is one of the four seasons and talking about how winter weather is different, including colder temperatures and shorter days.
- Explore how winter is not the same everywhere in the world and comparing climates in different countries and continents.
- Use maps and globes to find the UK, the Arctic and the Antarctic, and learning where cold places are located.
- Learn about animals that live in cold environments and how they are adapted to survive there.
- Find out that some animals migrate or hibernate during the winter months.
- Explore changes in materials by investigating how water freezes into ice and melts back into water.
- Learn about people who live in cold regions, including Inuit people, and how their lives are different from ours today and in the past.
- Talk about important celebrations and traditions, such as New Year, Valentines Day, Shrove Tuesday (pancake day) and how these are celebrated around the world.
- Sharing personal experiences, such as how we celebrated Christmas, and listening to the experiences of others.
- Begin to learn about caring for the environment, including how changes to the climate can affect animals and their habitats.
- Discuss where ingredients come from (eggs, milk, flour) and how food changes when cooked.

## In phonics, we will:

- Continue learning our letter sounds with Rocket Phonics First Steps.
- We will read Big Books that support us to learn the sounds: t, d, w, h, c/k, g, f, s
- Understand key concepts about print- that we read English text from left to right and from top to bottom.
- Develop our phonological awareness, so we can count or clap syllables in a word
- Listen for sounds in words and begin to notice initial sounds and letters, especially when talking about animals and objects.
- Sing nursery rhymes and familiar songs.



## As artists, designers and musicians we will:



- Create winter scenes using a range of art materials, including paint, collage resources and mixed media.
- Explore colour by making "cold" colours and lighter shades by mixing white paint to create tints.
- Take part in messy play activities, such as using shaving foam to create large-scale snow pictures.
- Use construction materials to design and build polar environments, working together to share ideas and plan creations.
- Make collages of polar animals using materials such as cotton wool, felt, tissue paper and foil to explore different textures.
- Develop observational skills by drawing and painting polar animals from photographs, and winter trees from winter walks.
- Use imagination in role play and small world activities linked to winter, polar animals and cold places.
- Explore the idea that winter has different sounds, for example: Snow falling- gentle shaking of bells or shakers, cold wind- swishing a rainmaker, crunchy snow- tapping claves or wood blocks, ice cracking- a loud drum or cymbal crash
- Choose instruments and experiment with making sounds to represent different winter weather.
- Create a simple "winter sound story," and change the weather (e.g. calm snowfall → windy storm → quiet night).
- Design and decorate our own paper pancakes using different materials and textures.