Drake Class
Year 5 and 6 English Home Learning Activities
Week beginning Monday 15/06/20

Grammar Focus

This is week 3 of our 3-week block.

So this week is all about you taking the time to create an amazing and influential project to help persuade people to be more aware of the environment.

Save the Bees – Plant the Trees – Clean the Seas – Keep the Freeze.

It can be in any form you like:

Poster – with facts and a bold illustration

Leaflet – possibly folded into 2 or 3 sections on each side with a front cover.

Page project – a page split into separate sections (a bit like what you would find in a non-fiction text book)

Computer presentation – use software to present your ideas on separate slides (Keynote, Prezi, PowerPoint etc.)

Video or audio blog (as long as you write a script) – use iMovie or equivalent to talk over images

If you prefer to follow online lessons, look at what BBC Bitesize have on offer.

Year 6: https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/tags/zncsscw/year-6-and-p7-lessons/1

Year 5: https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/tags/zhgppg8/year-5-and-p6-lessons/1

Step 1: Write your introduction

Remember that an introduction to any text needs to let the reader know: **Who**, **What**, **Where**, **When** and sometimes **Why** and **How** something is happening.

In your project, you need to write a paragraph explaining all of this but without the detail and evidence (which you will provide later).

Here is the list of features we need to keep including in our writing.

- Variety of sentence openers
- Relative clauses
- Conjunctions
- Expanded words (not **can't** but **cannot**)
- Parentheses (brackets, dashes and commas)
- Modal verbs
- Noun phrases
- Formal/Scientific vocabulary

We have looked at these in depth over the weeks so hopefully you will be getting much better at using them naturally.

REMEMBER – Your first word/phrase/sentence will not be your best so play around with it to make it even better.

Step 2/3/4/5 Create your project

Try to complete at least one sub-heading a day linked to your overall project.

Title – Save the Bees

Step 1 - Introduction

Step 2 - Sub-title 1 – What are bees?

Step 3 - Subtitle 2 – What do they do for us?

Step 4 - Subtitle 3 – How can we help them?

Step 5 - Add illustrations, photographs, borders, fact boxes to add to the overall look of the project.

Weekly Reading Tasks

If you have completed it so far then there's still the Greenpeace self-marking comprehension to complete. Go to and type in the code: https://www.twinkl.co.uk/go GV9805

Free access to Renaissance myON digital reading resources is now available to keep your family reading!

Renaissance is pleased to offer free access to myON digital reading resources for students and families during the current COVID-19 school closures. Students who are not already reading with their own personalized accounts to the myON literacy environment are welcome to log in through a single, shared account, to access this collection of curated resources.

What's available:

- **The myON digital library—which includes thousands of authentic digital books, fiction and nonfiction, covering a variety of topics and themes**
- **Five daily myON News articles—which are written for students by journalists and reviewed by a child psychologist for age appropriateness**

These resources are available 24/7 and can be accessed on any digital device that is connected to the Internet. Books from the myON digital library can be downloaded onto mobile devices for offline reading, as well.

How to log into myON:

1. **Go to: www.myon.com**

> **myON®**
>
> **myON reader personalizes reading for students by recommending books based on their interests, reading level, and ratings of books they've read . myON reader tracks book usage and reading growth over time and can project a student's future reading score based on their current reading activities within the system.**
>
> **www.myon.com**

2. **Click the login button at the top of the screen**
3. **Enter the following information on the login page**

School name: New York Reads
(begin typing and click on the school from the drop-down menu)
Username: read
Password: books

- Read your AR book and then take the quiz: Accelerated reader quiz: https://ukhosted113.renlearn.co.uk/2236417/
- Read to your parents/careers and discuss what you have read. Parents/careers - encourage them to read with expression and intonation.
- Watch Newsround and discuss what is happening in the wider world.
- Explore new vocabulary you find when reading. What are the origins of this word? Can it be modified? Can you find any synonyms or antonyms for your new word?
  With your parent/career, look in magazines, newspapers and books for new vocabulary you are unfamiliar with. You could use a highlighter to highlight in magazines and newspapers.

Some of you have been asking about collecting new reading books but unfortunately, due to the school closure, we are not able to facilitate this. You may have books at home that have and Accelerated Reader quiz assigned to it and you can find this out by using the AR book finder https://www.arbookfind.co.uk/ Here you can search a book and see if a quiz if it has a quiz.

Devon Libraries are also offering access through their website: www.devonlibraries.org.uk. Joining Devon Libraries is completely free and gives you immediate access to an unlimited supply of books, magazines, music, information (including Ancestry Library Edition), events and more.

Free ebooks can be found at https://www.oxfordowl.co.uk/for-home/find-a-book/library-page - you do need to register but all books are free to read during the school closure. Unfortunately, their levels do not match the Accelerated Reader ZPD codes that your child has. But after having a look at some of the ebooks on AR book finder, this is a rough guide

Oxford reading levels 1-5 and are below a ZPD of 2, Levels 6/7 are roughly at a ZPD of 2 and levels 8-13 are between 2.5 and 4. This is a rough guide so please check before reading.

Audible is also giving free access to books during this time https://stories.audible.com/start-listen

Weekly Spelling Tasks

It is great to see that many of you are practising spellings which you find difficult every day – it really is the best technique.

- Try to **work on 5 spellings a day** to help you make progress and then look to use them in your writing.
- **Handwriting practice** – ensure that you are joining all of your letters and practising those tricky joins (great to combine with your spellings).
- **Rainbow writing**. Using coloured pencils in different ways can help to make parts of words memorable. You could highlight the tricky part s of the word or write the tricky part in a different colour. You could also write each letter in a different colour, or write the word in red, then overlay in orange, yellow and so on.
- **Making up memorable 'silly sentences'** containing the word
- **Saying the word in a funny way** – for example, pronouncing the 'silent' letters in a word

Fact Sheet: About Bumblebees

At the Bumblebee Conservation Trust, we are passionate about saving bees. Here is why.

Save our bees

Bumblebees are among the most loved and familiar of garden insects. The sight and sound of them buzzing from flower to flower is an essential part of summertime, but sadly these fat, furry little creatures are struggling to survive.

At the time of writing, 24 bumblebee species are found in the UK, but unfortunately, in the last 80 years, two UK species have become extinct and others have declined sharply. In our modern world of paved gardens and intensive farming, our bumblebees find themselves hungry and homeless. The reason for this is simple and clearly visible: there are now far fewer flowers to provide bees with the pollen and nectar that they need to survive. But all is not lost – you can take action today to help save these hardworking pollinators. This fact sheet explains how.

What's so different about the bumblebee?

To most people, bees are instantly recognisable but there are distinct differences between the appearance and lives of bumblebees and honeybees. Bumblebees are larger and hairier than their cousins which makes them perfectly suited for colder climates. Bumblebee nests are small and they do not store large quantities of honey, so their extra furry coat allows them to venture out on cold days to collect pollen and nectar when honeybees stay inside.

Don't 'bee' confused

Don't confuse bumblebees with wasps. Bumblebees do not swarm and are not aggressive. Only female bumblebees can sting and they will only do so if they feel very threatened. Bumblebees will never interrupt your picnic or steal your sandwiches!

Buzz pollination

Only bumblebees are capable of buzz pollination. This is when the bee grabs the flower and produces a high-pitched buzz. This releases pollen that would otherwise stay trapped inside. Key ingredients in our diet such as tomatoes are pollinated in this way. Many other common foods such as beans and peas would also be harder to produce and much more expensive without British bumblebees.

Did you know that bumblebees have smelly feet?
Well they do and they're quite useful! After feeding, they leave a scent on the flower which lets other bumblebees know to avoid wasting energy landing – the flower will contain very little nectar or pollen.

Things you can do to help
Bumblebees help pollinate plants in more than one million acres of British gardens and the flowers they find can be a lifeline for them. No matter how small your garden, you can help to save the sound of summer by providing lots of bee-friendly flowers throughout the year. By 'bee-friendly' we mean flowers that are rich in pollen and nectar. Many ornamental plants that are commonly found in British gardens, such as pansies and begonias, are of no value to wildlife. These decorative and colourful flowers often produce little pollen or nectar. However, there are hundreds of beautiful flowers that do offer these rewards, including foxgloves, lavender, geraniums, herbs and wild roses that you can add to your garden.

Why not try planting these?


Geranium


Lavender


Wild rose

Energy drink for bees
If you find a stranded or sleepy bumblebee, you can help to boost its energy levels with a simple sugar and water mix. Mix equal parts white sugar and warm water then pour into a small container or sponge. Place both the bee and the artificial nectar near to some flowers.

Act now
You can also help by supporting our work to conserve bumblebee habitats and raise public awareness. There are various ways to show your support including volunteering, fundraising and becoming a member of the Bumblebee Conservation Trust. For more information on all of the above, including access to our Bee Kind gardening web page, visit: **www.bumblebeeconservation.org**

So, why do we need trees? It's a good question and perhaps not as obvious as you'd think. Trees are crucial for humans and the natural environment and how important they are to our everyday lives. UK forests currently cover 12% of our land area. This is very low compared to some of our European neighbours. For example, France and Germany have forest cover of 29% and 32% respectively. Of Europe's total land area, forest cover makes up 47%. The UK is seriously lagging behind and must improve.

To breathe

Our earth has an amazing ability to maintain a natural balance and trees are a central component of this. Trees are able to remove excess carbon dioxide (CO_2) from our atmosphere and convert it into oxygen (O_2) via a process called photosynthesis. They take in CO_2 and water and when combined with suitable light conditions, they produce glucose, and oxygen that is then released into the atmosphere. They are vital in ensuring that our atmosphere remains oxygen-rich.

To combat climate change

Global warming is heavily linked to increasing levels of CO_2. When CO_2 builds up in the atmosphere it creates a 'greenhouse effect'. This is where CO_2 traps heat from the sun, creating a warmer climate. The earth has always followed natural cycles of climate change, but we now know from geological records that increasing CO_2 levels are the biggest influence. In this current period of climate change, the main driver for increasing CO_2 is human activity. As trees specialise in removing excess CO_2 from our atmosphere there has never been a more important time to plant more and protect what we have.

To improve our health and clean our air

Trees are effective air filters. Some species, such as the London plane, are particularly resistant to air pollution and can help filter harmful pollutants by trapping them on their leaves and bark. That's why London plane trees line many city streets across the world. The benefits of trees and woods on our mental and physical health are well-documented. As well as improving air quality they provide a space for people to relax and exercise, which helps cast off mental fatigue and improve memory and cognitive function.

To provide for wildlife

Trees provide crucial habitat for much of the UK's wildlife. Whether it's for birds nesting in their canopies, small mammals making their homes in the root systems, or bats roosting in their trunks, they provide a whole host of opportunity. Oak trees are one of the UK's best known species. Their value for wildlife is huge – oaks have been found to support over 280 species of insects, which in turn provide food for many birds and other predators.

To shelter and shade

Whether it's in the heat of summer or the frost of winter, trees provide vital shade and shelter for both humans and animals. When it's hot, trees in our cities shade our streets and release water vapour into the air through their leaves. Farmers also recognise the importance of trees in keeping their livestock sheltered from cold, hot or windy conditions.

To prevent flooding

Trees have been shown to be useful as flood defences too. When situated near rivers and streams they massively reduce the amount of rainwater entering watercourses. In turn, this reduces the likeliness of rivers bursting their banks and flooding low-lying areas. Trees also provide the added benefit of preventing soil erosion and protecting our watercourses from harmful pollution in run-off.

Trees are vital

It's clear that trees provide wonderful benefits for both humans and the natural environment. Trees are the lungs of our cities. They're the homes for our wildlife. They're our guardians against flooding. Trees are vital to so many aspects of our life.

Plastic is an amazing man-made material – it's cheap to produce and has many uses! But *half* of the plastic we produce is designed to be used just once and then thrown away – and even plastic that *can* be reused or recycled gets chucked out, too!

Much of our unwanted plastic ends up in the ocean – around 8 million tonnes of it every year, in fact! And because plastic takes 400 years to break down, it stays there for a long, long time, putting our friends beneath the waves in serious danger. Let's dive in and take a closer look…

<u>Plastic in the Ocean – the facts and figures…</u>

700…
different species of animals are believed to be severely threatened because of plastic pollution in the ocean.

22 million…
tonnes of a gas called carbon dioxide (CO_2) is absorbed by the ocean each day because of rubbish. The ocean has always sucked up CO_2 from the air as part of nature – but our waste means *more* is being absorbed than before. As a result, the water is becoming more acidic, which could make it harder for fish to breath and for creatures like crabs, lobsters and coral to grow their shells.

10%…
of all dead animals found in beach clean-ups worldwide have been entangled in plastic bags.

443…
animals and birds were found trapped by marine debris (such as old ropes, nets, mesh and wires) during a recent international coastal clean-up.

5 trillion…
pieces of plastic (not including microbeads – minuscule plastic balls found in toiletries like face washes and toothpaste) are estimated to be floating in the world's seas.

90%…
of seabirds eat plastic rubbish, mistaking it for food.

20%…
of fish found during a recent expedition had plastic in their stomachs.

52%…
of sea turtles worldwide have accidentally eaten plastic rubbish in the ocean.

The facts and figures are pretty shocking, right? The good news is that people around the world are working to together to reduce plastic waste.

Climate change (or **global warming**), is the process of our planet heating up.

Scientists estimate that since the **Industrial Revolution**, human activity has caused the **Earth** to warm by approximately **1°C**. While that might not sound like much, it means big things for people and wildlife around the globe.

Unfortunately, rising temperatures don't just mean that we'll get nicer weather – *if only*! The changing climate will actually make our weather more ***extreme*** and ***unpredictable***.

As temperatures rise, some areas will get wetter and lots of animals (and humans!) could find they're not able to adapt to their changing climate.

What causes climate change?

1. Burning fossil fuels

Over the past **150 years**, **industrialised countries** have been burning large amounts of **fossil fuels** such as **oil** and **gas.** The gases released into the **atmosphere** during this process act like an invisible 'blanket', trapping heat from the sun and warming the Earth. This is known as the "**Greenhouse Effect**".

2. Farming

Believe it or not, cows' eating habits contribute towards climate change. Just like us, when cows eat, **methane** – a type of **greenhouse gas** – builds up in their digestive system and is released in the form of… a *burp*! This might sound funny, but when you imagine that there are almost **1.5 billion** cows releasing all that gas into the atmosphere, it sure adds up!

3. Deforestation

Forests absorb huge amounts of **carbon dioxide** – another greenhouse gas – from the air, and release oxygen back into it. The **Amazon rainforest** is so large and efficient at doing this that it acts like our planet's air conditioner – limiting climate change. Sadly, many rainforests are being cut down to make wood, palm oil and to clear the way for **farmland**, **roads**, **oil mines**, and **dams**.

How will climate change affect the planet?

The Earth has had many **tropical** climates and **ice ages** over the billions of years that it's been in existence, so why is now so different? Well, this is because for the last 150 years human activity has meant we're releasing a huge amount of harmful gases into the Earth's atmosphere, and records show that the global temperatures are rising more rapidly since this time.

A warmer climate could affect our planet in a number of ways:

– More rainfall

– Changing seasons

– Shrinking sea ice

– Rising sea levels

How will climate change affect wildlife?

Climate change is already affecting wildlife all over the world, but certain species are suffering more than others. **Polar animals** – whose icy natural habitat is melting in the warmer temperatures – are particularly at risk. In fact, experts believe that the **Arctic sea ice** is melting at a shocking rate – **9%** per decade! **Polar bears** need sea ice to be able to hunt, raise their young and as places to rest after long periods of swimming. Certain **seal** species, like **ringed seals** make caves in the snow and ice to raise their pups, feed and mate.

It's not just polar animals who are in trouble. **Apes** like **orangutans**, which live in the rainforests of **Indonesia**, are under threat as their habitat is cut down, and more droughts cause more bushfires. **Sea turtles** rely on **nesting beaches** to lay their eggs, many of which are threatened by rising sea levels. Did you know that the temperature of nests determines whether the eggs are male or female? Unfortunately, with temperatures on the rise, this could mean that many more females are born than males, threatening future turtle populations.

How will people be affected by climate change?

Climate change won't just affect animals, it's already having an impact on people, too. Most affected are some of the people who grow the food we eat every day. Farming communities, especially in **developing countries**, are facing higher temperatures, increased rain, floods and droughts.