



## Where in the world will I find a Polar Bear?



Tigers (EYFS)  
Spring 1 2026 (6 weeks)



### **Introduction to our topic 'Where will I find a Polar Bear?': -**

**We will launch our new topic by watching a video of David Attenborough's "What a wonderful world" and discussing the amazing natural features on our planet. We will use this as a spring board to then find out about some of the animals and their habitats. We will be finding out where on our planet we live and what other habitats there are and where these are, as well as discovering what animals and plants are found there and how these are similar or differ to ones found near us. We will look at how we can help to look after animals both near and far.**

Please see the attached curriculum map which outlines some of the areas and activities we will be covering, this is not exhaustive as we know the importance of being flexible in the actual activities planned in order to most benefit the children. The skills, knowledge and understanding that the children need will be catered for in line with their individual profiles and all children are encouraged to achieve the very best they can. The attached Spring Term child led structured play and outdoor learning opportunities sheet has further information on some of the independent activities the children will be covering, different levels of challenge are built into these activities.

### **Personal, Social and Emotional Development**

We will spend time settling the children back into their routines after Christmas and we will continue to help them understand our behaviour expectations in order that everyone is able to have fun and work harmoniously together. We will remind them of the class rules they helped devise and why we all need to stick to them. We will be encouraging the children to develop their independence over the term, including doing up their own coats, getting out and putting away resources, as well as taking care of them. We will continue with Kapow following the Self-Regulations – ability to listen and follow instructions, we will also be looking at making New Year Resolutions for something we want to get better at. We will talk about perseverance and the importance of this in achieving new goals. We will continue to discuss our emotions and feelings and identify these and how they can change.

### **Communication and Language**

All the children will be encouraged to use their speaking and listening skills to talk about the topics we are covering and their prior experiences e.g. Winter – snow and ice, alongside naming animals they know. The children will continue to learn to take turns at speaking and in learning to listen to each other. We will also aim to develop their speaking skills by learning new vocabulary related to Winter, animals and habitats. We will encourage the children to use their new vocabulary in discussions, role play and in the stories they will be telling. We will listen to many stories and think about what we hear and see and begin to ask and answer questions about these stories.

### **Physical Development**

We will embed our dressing and undressing skills in PE alongside completing the challenge that has been set for us all to be able to fasten our own coats before February half term! We continue to develop our large motor skills through using balls, beanbags, hoops, scooters, balance bikes and the trim trail. We are also going to be exploring gymnastic moves. We will continue with our dough disco sessions alongside physical literacy – all aimed at further developing core strength and from this the children's fine motor control. We will be moving onto learning letter formation through learning them in their families. We will have many opportunities to continue to develop our cutting, sticking, drawing and making skills through many topic and seasonal related crafts. We will continue to work on our lunchtime table manners, using our cutlery and talking quietly to our friends and have opportunities to discuss our healthy eating and self-care.

## **Literacy**

**Phonics + Reading:** - We will embed the Phase 2 letters and sounds (phonemes and graphemes) s a t p i n m d g o c k ck e u r h b f l ff ll ss j v w x y z zz qu ch sh th ng nk. We will also introduce the Phase 3 graphemes (ai ee igh oa oo o oar or ur ow oi ear air er). The children will continue to practise oral and visual blending and segmenting to aid in their reading and writing. We will introduce sight words through games to all the children. We will talk about sentences and how these need to make sense – we will play games to help us understand this. The children will continue on their individual reading journey with support from home, we will explain to parents how they can support this at home through a writing/reading meeting in January. We will use a wide range of texts related to our topic and the seasons including poetry, fiction and non-fiction. We will use our story mountain to help explain the basic structure of stories and have fun creating our own Animal and Winter based stories.

**Writing:** - The children will continue to develop their control through a variety of activities. We will continue to work on pencil grip and look at letter formation through the letter families. We will continue to encourage the children to see themselves as writers – using letters in their writing and trying to use the sounds they know, confident to read back their own work. They will have many opportunities for writing including writing labels for Winter and Animal pictures, answering questions in their Early Morning Writing Books and writing about their weekends, amongst many other opportunities.

## **Maths**

**Number:** - We will continue to recognise numbers up to 10 and understand their composition. We will recite beyond 20 and come back down again and starting at different numbers within 20. We will use the language of fewer and more to compare two sets of objects and find 1 more and 1 less within 10. We will also begin to look at simple addition and subtraction through practical activities as well as continuing to become familiar with numicon

**Shape, Space and Measures:** - We will continue to recognise and name simple 2D shapes as well as looking at 3D shapes, we will be using many 3D shapes in our 'Recycled Animal'. We will be learning about the language of measurement through work on height, length and weight. We will use the natural world of animals to look at repeating patterns and recreate repeating patterns of two or three shapes or colour. Through our work on Winter we will be introduced to symmetry and have hands on experience of ice cubes.

## **Understanding the World**

We will look at the different habitats in the world and find out where they are, what they look like and what plants and animals can be found there. We will find out how this is similar and different to the environment we live in. We will find out why animals are so important and how we can help to look after animals. We will continue to explore the seasons we are experiencing – Winter and what this brings and how it affects us and the world around us, we will be encouraging the children to take part in the RSPB's Big School Bird Watch and discuss what they find out. We will be learning about the Chinese New Year through the Year of the Horse. We will continue to be introduced to some of the ICT equipment in Tigers, use appropriate programs on the iPads and learn how to use the Yoto players and Interactive Whiteboard.

## **Expressive Arts and Design**

We will be creating Winter and Animal inspired art including painting, printing, drawing and collage, as well as creating an aeroplane in our home corner so we can travel around the world and explore the different places to be found in the world. We will be making a variety of crafts using both adult led and child initiated ideas including a moving horse to celebrate Chinese New Year and we will have a day dedicated to researching, designing and making our very own 'Animal of the World' using recycled materials. We start to learn the songs for our EYFS showcase in May as well as learning songs in preparation for the school Easter church service. We will be having great fun with our role play areas – inside an aeroplane and outside a garage, these will provide lots of opportunities for language related to these.

**SMSC links:** - We work hard to provide activities and experiences that enable the children to link all of the areas of their learning together and we are very mindful that the children need to see and understand the relevance to 'real life' in their learning if it is to become embedded and useful as they grow. We will look at some of the celebrations and festivals happening around them including Safer Internet Day, St Valentine's Day and Chinese New Year. We want the children to begin to understand a range of beliefs and how these impact on their lives – discuss what people believe and why they celebrate Chinese New Year. We want them to begin to have a moral understanding of what is right and wrong – continue to look at the class rules they helped devise and look at acceptable behaviour – including rewards and sanctions. Be part of our local community and appreciate the beauty of the area we live in. Create an awareness that not everyone has the same opportunities in life and that they can help make a difference to the lives of others. Experience caring for animals and the environment using the outdoors.