



## Under the Sea

Tigers (EYFS) Medium Term Planning  
Summer Term 2 2026 (7.3 weeks)



### **Introduction to our topic 'Under the Sea': -**

We will launch our new topic by watching and listening to the BBC trailer for David Attenborough's 'Blue Planet' <https://youtu.be/kAphgHhIteM> and discussing the amazing natural feature that is water on our planet and the creatures that live on and in it. We will be finding out where on our planet we live and where we would find water as well as discovering why it is so important to living things. We will also be finding out about the problems of plastic pollution in the oceans and what we can help to do about this. We will also be finding out about minibeasts and materials around us as well as being introduced to electricity, magnets and floating and sinking

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 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 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 continue to develop their independence in preparation for Year 1, including doing up their own coats, getting out and putting away resources, as well as taking care of them. We will continue with our PSHE Jigsaw following the theme 'Changing Me' – we will help them understand and embrace change in a positive way. We will continue to talk about our school values of kindness, respect and diversity and how we can put these into practise.

### **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., Baslow and the seaside. 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 Water, the Seaside and pirates. 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. They will be encouraged to continue taking part in 'Show and Tell' on a Tuesday and in taking home the class Tiger puppets and talking about the adventures they share.

### **Physical Development**

We will be preparing for sports day – learning team games and how to be good winners and losers! We will be spending Friday mornings taking advantage of the area behind the Baslow sports field to develop our literacy, maths, PSED and physical development skills through a range of activities based on outdoor learning. We continue to develop our large motor skills through using balls, beanbags, hoops, scooters, balance bikes and the trim trail. We will continue learning letter formation through learning them in their families, alongside numeral formation and start to think about sizing and position. 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. We will learn and practise safety in the sun and in the water.

## **Literacy**

**Phonics + Reading:** - We will continue to embed the Phase 3 letters and sounds (phonemes and graphemes), as well as embedding learning from Summer 1 including phase 4 (with long vowel sounds) as well as looking at different endings. The children will continue to practise oral and visual blending and segmenting to aid in their reading and writing. We will continue to help the children to learn sight words through games. 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, alongside using the Little Wandle scheme within school. 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 under water and pirate/mermaid-based stories.

**Writing:** - The children will continue to develop their control through a variety of activities including working on pencil grip and letter formation through the letter families (including size and position). We will continue to encourage the children to see themselves as writers and help them progress on their individual journey as writers consolidating their understanding and use of the target symbols. They will have teacher led and independent writing opportunities. They will have many opportunities for writing including daily writing in their writing journals using a variety of topic related stimuli, writing labels for water related pictures, creating a poster to help reduce plastic waste, writing seaside postcards, making and labelling a treasure map, writing their own stories amongst many other opportunities.

## **Maths**

**Number:** - We will continue to develop a deep understanding of numbers up to 10 and including their composition. We will recite beyond 20 and come back down again and starting at different numbers within 20. We will be looking at number bonds to 5 and 10 including doubling facts. We will explore the patterns in numbers including odds and evens, sharing and doubling. When comparing quantities, we will look at which are greater than, less than or the same.

**Shape, Space and Measures:** - We will continue to recognise and name simple 2D shapes as well as looking at 3D shapes through treasure hunting and making beach huts. We will be sorting jewels into colour, size and materials as well as deciding on our own criteria. We will be positional and directional language through directing pirates and beebots. We will be using our seaside café to pay for things with the correct coins.

## **Understanding the World**

We will look at where water is found on our planet and start to explore these important parts of our world, as well as identifying where we live and what is around us. We will start to look at similarities and differences in the differing environments of Baslow and the seaside. We will explore the world of minibeasts, materials, electricity and magnets through fun activities. We will continue to learn about other religions and faiths including discussing the similarities and differences with their own celebrations as well as finding out about Jesus and his friends. We will look at how we can all help look after our world and why this is important. We will continue to be introduced to some of the ICT equipment in Tigers, use appropriate programs on the iPad, learning how to use the CD player, Interactive Whiteboard, to take photographs and use the directional toys such as beebots.

## **Expressive Arts and Design**

We will be creating Seaside and Water inspired art including painting, printing, drawing and collage, as well as creating a seaside / under the water display. We will be making a variety of crafts using both adults led and child-initiated ideas and pirate/mermaid craft including a treasure map and treasure chest which we will fill with wishes for the future (for ourselves, our family and the world)! We will be having great fun with our role play area a seaside cafe, these will provide lots of opportunities for language related to these. We will be making ice lollies following instructions.

**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 World Environment Day, The story of Buddha, World Ocean Day and Father's Day. 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 these different festivals and celebrations. We want them to begin to have a moral understanding of what is right and wrong – follow and understand 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. Be aware 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.