

# Year 2 Learning Letter

Year 2  
Autumn Home  
Learning

ESSENTIAL each week:

## This Term's Project

'Hot and Cold Down Under!'

An exciting Autumn term has begun with our project titled 'Hot and Cold Down Under!' In Year 2, we plan to be learning about the seven continents of the world – beginning with exploring the country Australia through art, dance, music, geography and design technology. Children will be finding out about Aboriginal art and making observational drawings of animals. They will explore colour combinations and create their own Aboriginal inspired paintings. In computing children will learn how to create basic code and will also be focusing on developing research and word processing skills, promoting the use of both hands for typing. Science will take us on a journey around the world where we will be learning about different habitats across the continents and sorting and classifying information that we discover.

### Reading

Make a time to read regularly. Little and often is best but as the complexity and length of book increases more time might be needed. Priority should be given to the Guided Reading text. Always have a conversation about what your child has read and understood.

### Maths

x3 sessions of up to 15 minutes practise of the current maths skills on Education City. New homelearning tasks will be updated fortnightly.

*Lost your Education City log-in? Ask your class teacher to provide you with this again.*

*No internet? Drop into the ICT suite on a Monday after school with your child. someone will be there and will be happy to help.*

## Mathematics

This term we will be consolidating and extending the children's mathematical knowledge. To start the year, we plan a large emphasis on place value and number facts. This knowledge is fundamental to the rest of our maths learning. Keep practising counting in 1s, 2s, 5s and 10s wherever possible! The children will also be learning about measure (length, money, time) and the properties of 2D shapes. Problem solving will be integrated into our maths lessons so children can apply their skills. Sessions will always include a 'challenge' element to extend learning and for children to 'grow their brain'.



*'If parents want to give their children a gift the best thing they can do is to teach their children to love challenges, be intrigued by mistakes, enjoy effort and keep on learning. That way, their children don't have to be slaves of praise. They will have a lifelong way to build and repair their own confidence.'*

Carol Dweck

## English

We have started the term with story writing, inspired by stories from other cultures. Listen out for us reciting (with actions) a range of Australian stories including 'Wombat goes Walkabout.'

Non-fiction writing and traditional tales will also be studied. As we progress through the term children will continue to develop their vocabulary and grammatical knowledge and show this in their writing.

As the children become more confident writers we will be really focusing on presentation and layout. All children need to be trying their best to join their handwriting now they are in Year 2.

### OPTIONAL to enjoy over the

**Autumn Term** to further support your child's learning and skills. How much time to spend on each task will depend on the activity. A good rule to go by is... enough time to enjoy but not too much time to make learning a chore.

**Draw:** Try and draw/create some Australian animals using a variety of media. Maybe you could paint a picture or make a sculpture.

**Research:** Can you find out about the different species of animals that live in hot and cold climates?

**Visit:** <https://www.livingcoasts.org.uk/>  
Visit the Living Coasts website for a sneak peak of the wonders in store for us in November...

**Go to:** outdoors to spot the signs of Autumn. A local park or Mincinglake Valley can be magical.

*Did you know that you can print off certificates from Education City?*

# Last Year

We worked each week with the team at The Devon Wildlife Trust using our outdoor classrooms to explore and learn about the world around us. Y2 children learnt how to identify British bird calls and enjoyed building fires. The purpose of this work is to enrich the science curriculum and instill a sense of awe and wonder in the amazing world right on our doorstep. This enrichment will continue for your child across this year as well.

You can find out more about the work of the Devon Wildlife Trust by visiting their website [www.devonwildlifetrust.org](http://www.devonwildlifetrust.org) (check out their wildlife cams!)

You might also like to try a swiggle safe search to find out 'Why are bees so important?' [www.swiggle.org.uk](http://www.swiggle.org.uk)

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## Out and About

With shorter days and longer nights there is still lots to do out of doors. Why not be an 'Autumn Nature Detective'? Visit

<http://www.naturedetectives.org.uk/autumn/> for more activities like this one.



**Did you know?**

Our native trees arrived and grew here naturally after the last Ice Age and were not introduced by humans.