



Inspire

CURRICULUM

Unit: Posting and Places
Term: Spring 1
Year: 1



Unit Overview

This Unit is based on the idea of receiving and writing letters and emails with new friends from around the world. This will enable the children to be able to name and locate the world's continents, and the countries of the UK. They will start to appreciate and understand similarities and differences between themselves/their home country and the homes of others, with a focus on one contrasting area- the Arctic.

They will extend their knowledge of maps, compass directions, and develop their fieldwork skills through weather recording and observing human and physical features in their environment, building on work done in the autumn.

The topic will conclude with a class assembly, sharing their work with the school and parents.



Posting and Places

This Unit is based on the idea of receiving and writing letters and emails with new friends from around the world. This will enable pupils to name and locate the world's continents, and the countries of the UK. They will start to appreciate and understand similarities and differences between themselves/their home country with that of others, with a focus on one contrasting area- the Arctic.

They will extend their knowledge of maps and compass directions and develop their fieldwork skills through weather recording and observing human and physical features in their environment, building on work done in the autumn.

The topic will be finished off with a class assembly, sharing with the school and parents all the different things they have learnt and worked on.



Outdoor Learning

- Visit the local Post Office to post their postcards, letters or parcels, each having the opportunity to measure and weigh their item and pay the correct amount
- Visit a sorting office
- Walk around the school/village, using maps and a compass, using observational skills to study human and physical features
- Orienteering
- Programming a programmable toy outdoors
- Weather recording
- 'Arctic adventure' outdoors

National and International Links

- The whole Unit is based around comparing our locality with a contrasting non-European country, and locating the countries of the UK and the world's continents
- Sending letters/emails to children around the world
- Connect with a school in a contrasting locality

Links to the world of work

- Visit from: a postman or postwoman to hot-seat and find out about their job; a local councillor to talk about voting system and how they appeal for votes, count votes etc; an artist that specialises in printing/block printing and a husky dog

Links to learning and life skills

- Skill 3 Making and mending friendships
- Skill 4 Valuing others for their similarities and differences
- Skill 8 talking, sharing and making decisions with others

Computing

- Pupils will learn about different ways of communicating long distances through the internet, and how websites are not stored locally.
- They will also create a fact sheet about themselves using images from the internet, maps and simple text.
- They will learn how they can send this as data through the internet to their Inuit friend.

Music

- Traditional songs from our locality and learn some from contrasting place – the Arctic.
- Drumming, as traditional Arctic instrument, and chanting.

English

- English will consist of writing letters to our new friend and other children around the world and the countries of the UK. (With links to computing, where they will be sending emails).
- They will write a postcard to their parents/carers (using the postcard they design themselves in art), imagining they are visiting their friend in the Arctic and describing what it is like.
- Additionally, (if not already in action) Traveller Ted will be introduced that goes home with a different pupil each weekend and on special holidays, the pupil completes a diary about his adventures.
- The end result will be a class book with the letters, photos and gifts we've sent and received on each page.

Geography

- They will be pinpointing on a globe and world map, the locations that they send and receive letters, photos and gifts to and from.
- There will be a class display with a world map and a UK map, which will be added to throughout the topic. They will use their previous learning, where they studied and made maps of their local environment and start to compare these features with features in the Arctic.
- Pupils will be introduced to simple compass directions and use a programmable toy to travel around a world map to 'visit their friends'.
- Pupils will also record the temperature daily and compare it to the temperature in the Arctic.

Maths

- Weight - linked to parcels,
- Measurement - linked to sizes of letters and parcels, money - for paying for post.
- Data handling - from temperature recording and comparison to Arctic weather.

Art

- Pupils will design their own postcard inspired by Inuit art. They will first look at examples of Inuit art and then design their print.
- They will use the block printing technique and experiment with the technique and refine their print.
- This print will be made into a postcard. (The postcard is then used in their English work).



Resources

Geography

- World map and UK map for cumulative class display pins, string
- Globe
- Letters from friends in Scotland, Wales, Ireland, Africa, Antarctica, Asia, Australasia and South America (teacher to pick a country within each continent), with photos of their typical 'home'.
- Traveller Ted and diary
- Programmable toy, Map of the world mat and grid
- Compasses
- Thermometers and recording charts
- Non-fiction books about the Arctic

Launch Lesson

- White material, icicles, pictures of Arctic animals etc to decorate classroom as the Arctic
- Letter from an Arctic friend, with photos of his home and environment
- Film clip of a documentary or similar of the Arctic environment

Art

- Examples of Inuit printing art, especially 'The Enchanted Owl' by Kenojuak Ashevak.
<http://www.gallery.ca/en/see/collections/artwork.php?mkey=17865>
<http://www.gallery.ca/en/see/collections/artwork.php?mkey=6067>
<http://www.gallery.ca/en/see/collections/artwork.php?mkey=98991>
- Access to laptops
- Blank postcards
- Marshmallows and cocktail sticks, pictures of igloos.
- Quick print Foam,
- Trays, printing inks (paint will fill the drawn lines & spoil the print)
- Rollers, pencils, paper

Posting and Places

English

- Envelopes
- Writing paper
- Thank you cards
- Passport templates
- A rhyme/poem to fit with topic

Post office role play area

Role badges	Till	Stamps	Letter size chart
Key words	Money	Paper	Computer
Packaging materials	Scales	Envelopes	Stampers
Map of the world/UK	Post box	Leaflets	Parcels
Key addresses	Postbag	Pencils	Sellotape
Open/closed sign	Postcards	Labels	

Computing

- Google Maps, Google Earth or other mapping application
- Google Images
- Unit Activity Sheet (computing resource pack)
- A large printout of the pupil local area
- Microsoft Word
- Skype (and a willing Inuit participant)
- Link to the Microsoft Snipping Tool on the desktop
- Links to the various websites accessible by students (resource pack)

Music

- Recordings of sounds from the Arctic e.g. www.alwaysnorth.com
- Recording - Chattermarks - Field recordings from Palmer Station Antarctica Cheryl E Leonard
- Recording / film of Inuit throat music and drumming (plenty to be found on the internet)
- Recordings / film of 'ice music', particularly Terje Isungset (plenty to be found on the internet) see www.isung.no/about/ice-music/
- Pictures of Inuit instruments (again there are plenty on the internet)
- Access to 'found sounds', especially metallic
- Selection of classroom percussion instruments
- Recording / filming equipment
- Songs from your own locality. These may be regional or very local depending on where your school is. There are many folk societies on the internet which will be able to help with this. Consult your community too.

