



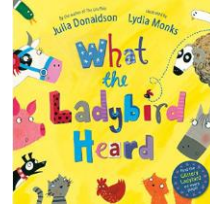
Topic Overview – Cygnet Class – Year 1 - Autumn Term 2025 - ‘What we nourish today, will flourish tomorrow’

In **Maths** the children will be using place value skills within 10 to count and sort objects, count on and backwards within 10 and compare numbers. This will lead on to a unit on addition and subtraction where the part/whole model will be introduced and children will write number sentences and use the number bonds to 10 and fact families to support this. The children will learn about 2d and 3d shapes by naming, sorting and creating shape patterns. **Support your child** by singing counting songs, practising number bonds and facts together. Shape hunt at home or when out by finding and naming shapes when you see them!

In **English**, the children will continue to improve their reading and writing skills through our Read Write Inc. structured programme. In addition, they will read and respond to a range of different text types; the core texts for English are ‘Ruby’s Worry’ by Tom Percival, and ‘What the Ladybird Heard’ by Julia Donaldson. Spellings will be given weekly, and handwriting will be practised alongside. **Support your child** at home by encouraging daily reading (15 minutes is ideal), help them learn their spellings and carefully practice them in their handwriting book, encouraging correct letter formation.

In **PSHE** our first theme is ‘Being Me in My World’ - we will discuss how our behaviour can impact others and why some choices are better than others. After half term the topic is ‘Celebrating Differences’ where friendship will be explored, how it feels to have a friend and be a friend. **Support your child** at home by talking about the school rules and signing the home school agreement together.

In **PE** this term the children will learn football skills, take part in multi- skills, invasion games and dance. PE lessons encourage children to learn about, move and use their bodies and emphasise that exercise is both important and fun. **Support your child** at home by encouraging your child to have fun outside. Play catch with a ball, invent fun fitness challenges for each other or have a dance to a favourite song!



Geography and History This term in Geography, lessons will focus on our country in the UK. Children will also be examining our location on Planet Earth through maps, looking at a globe and Google Earth. In History, children will explore the concept of past and present through our local area. Our history theme will be explored further with a study of homes old and new.

Support your child by discussing routes you travel regularly, looking at maps together, spotting features when out and about, talk about the differences between urban and rural environments. Talk to your child about the different types of homes you see locally and further afield.

In **Computing** the children will learn about different types of technology. There will be an introduction to e-safety and discussions about what to do if they have any concerns online. The children will then use paint to create and save digital art. **Support your child** at home by identifying and talking about the technology you use at home. Support them with using the internet safely. Children will all have a ‘numbots’ log in and can use this app to practice maths skill with fun games and challenges online.

In **Music**, the children will be developing knowledge and understanding of dynamics, timbre and tempo through different pieces of music. Our themes will be ‘My Favourite Things’ and ‘Under the Sea’. They will also work on the key skills of listening, composing and performing. **Support your child** at home by listening to and discussing different genres of music and enjoying singing together!

Art and Design Lessons this term will focus on textiles and mechanisms. In art the children will use dip dyeing explore ideas about colour, pattern and shape. This will include making rubbings and relief block prints. In Design Technology the children will explore mechanisms like levers, linkages, pivots and sliders to create their very own moving monster.

Support your child at home by looking at the work of these artists together and discussing how the images make you feel. Notice together how other artists use line, shape and colour. You might like to visit one of the many local art galleries or exhibitions in our area such as Firstsite in Colchester.

In **Science** the children will begin by learning about the changes that the seasons bring and understand the meaning of vocabulary such as deciduous and hibernation. Children will be exploring these changes in our fantastic outdoor learning environment. This term children will also be working scientifically, observing closely, conducting experiments and recording data to understand and explore. **Support your child** at home by talking about what items around the home are made of. Go for walks and notice what is happening around us in nature as the season changes from summer to autumn and then winter.

In **RE** the class will be exploring the subject of ‘Believing’ and finding out ‘Why do Jewish families talk about repentance at new year?’. The children will then look at Christianity and explore ‘Why was Jesus given the name Saviour?’. As we approach the end of term, we will of course explore the story of the Nativity, culminating in our school performance.

Support your child at home by helping them to understand that there are people with different faiths and no specific faith. Help them to understand that diversity in our world is a richness, and that when we respect each other, we can live together harmoniously. You may like to visit a place of worship to see the building or experience a service.