

HEROES VS. VILLAINS

The Big Idea

Having met a whole host of heroes and villains as we have plotted our journey through Fairy Tales, we turn our attention to the heroes and villains who drive a good plot! Well-chosen books will show how characters behave, why they make certain choices, and how heroes and villains often win or lose by the way they choose to act. By bringing books to life through discussion, drama, and creative activities, this theme will support children's language development, imagination, and early understanding of right and wrong in an engaging and age-appropriate way. This theme encourages empathy, communication, and confidence, while nurturing children's understanding of consequences, and how problems can be solved positively. We will also be meeting everyday heroes who help others, show bravery, and care for their community.

Literacy:

We will be...

- Using talk for writing techniques to explore character descriptions that bring to life the key features of heroes and the contrasting language needed for a villain. We will develop oracy through active talk and role play and build on our understanding of a sentence as writing skills develop.
- Immersing ourselves in a range of quality texts about heroes and villains (King Arthur, Peter Pan, The Pirates Next Door and The Bad Guys by Aaron Blabey) to understand how authors build characters and stories.
- Practising phonics daily – consolidating known sounds and introducing new phonemes and digraphs. Through segmenting and blending, reading and writing will start to develop at a pace!

Maths:

We will be...

- counting, recognising and deepening our understanding numbers up to 10, solving mathematical problems involving the language of addition and subtraction.
- counting, recognising and writing numbers correctly up to 15, focusing on place value.
- applying our understanding of number bonds to 5 to solve mathematical problems.

Physical Development:

We will...

- find out how to keep ourselves healthy and strong to show some understanding that good practices involving exercise, eating, sleeping and hygiene can contribute to good health.
- Use the apparatus to climb, jump and sequence movement
- Dance and move in a variety of ways in time to music.

Communication and Language:

We will...

- Share ideas about hero and villain characters, detailing similarities and differences.
- Creating our own role play area, such as a doctor's surgery, to put our own life saving skills into practice.
- Deciding and discussing which heroic superpower we would choose and why.

Personal Social and Emotional:

We will be...

- describing ourselves in positive terms and discussing what we are good at. What are our own heroic qualities? How can we use them to help others?
- Linking the characteristics of effective learning to our work and play. For example, how to be a super learner by not giving up, trying new things, working with others and bravely trying new ideas.

Expressive Art and Design:

We will...

- Be inspired by the legend of King Arthur and design a boat to reach the Lady of the Lake and retrieve Excalibur. We will then be making our own 'sword in the stone' using different materials
- Based on story of the Superhero Hotel, we will be creating our own Villain Village!
- Singing songs based on our theme.

Understanding the World:

We will be...

- looking for ordinary heroes within our community and finding out how they help us.
- Learning more about the role of the emergency services and how they protect and help us. Talking to parents who work within the local community (e.g. police force, NHS) and understand how extraordinary heroes are closer than you think!
- Making comparisons of ourselves by looking at baby photos and talking about how we have changed.
- RE: The stories Jesus told. Understanding that stories are special and have meaning.