

What makes the Great Barrier Reef so great?

Spring Term 1 – Reception (EYFS) – 2021/22



Love Determination Responsibility Respect Kindness Friendship Honesty

Welcome to Reception at St Michael's C of E Primary School!
Our topic this term is '**Under the Sea**' and we will focus our learning on the Great Barrier Reef, explore the animals that live in the sea and think about what ocean pollution means.

We will use a variety of key stories and non-fiction books related to the themes outlined above. These books will act as a platform for discussion, activities and further learning opportunities.

Some of the activities we will be doing this term include:

Compare environments:
Forest School and the sea.

Look at the life cycle of a
sea turtle.

Explore capacity using
the water tray.

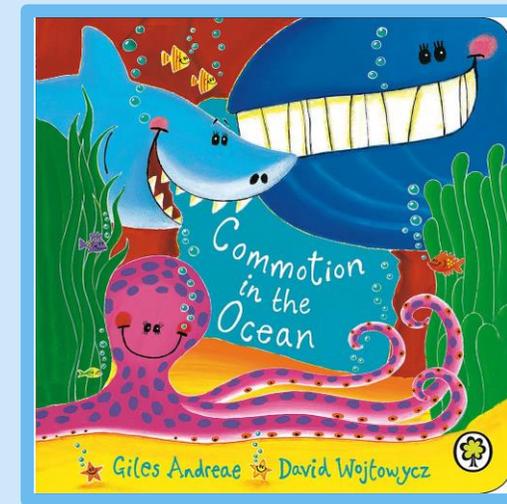
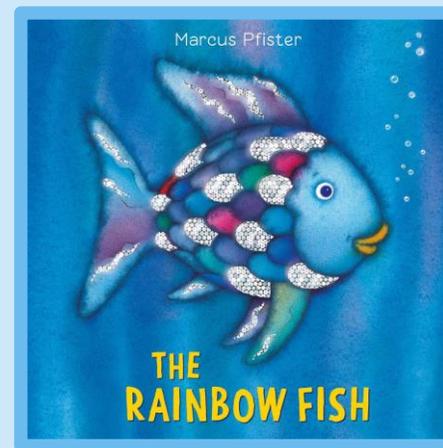
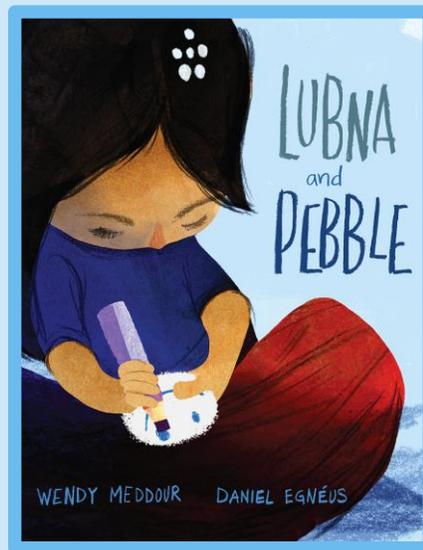
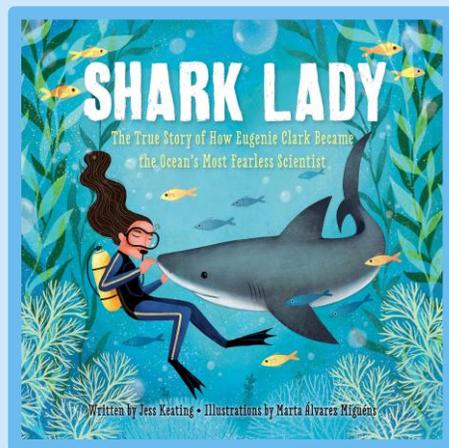
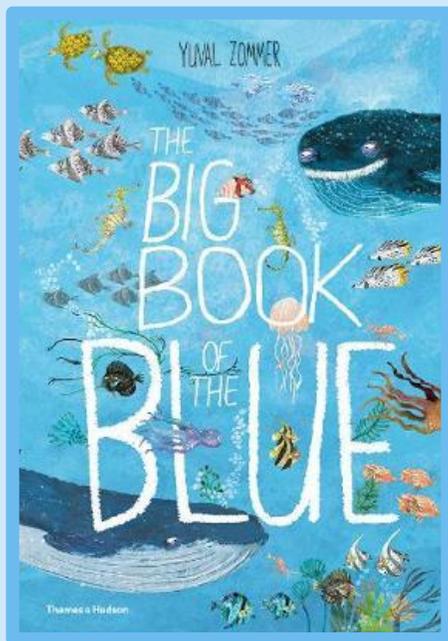
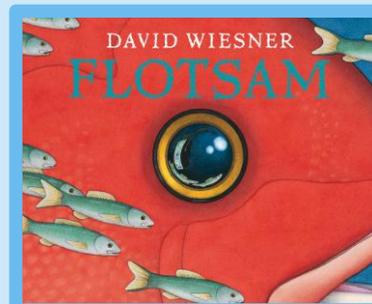
Sing a range of different
nursery rhymes.

Thinking about how we might move
as different sea creatures.

Go on a number hunt.

Create a friendship tree
and think about how to be
a good friend.

Create sea creatures using
a variety of different artistic
techniques.



Characteristics of effective
learning:

Playing and exploring –
engagement

- Finding out and exploring
- Playing with what they know
- Being willing to have a go

Characteristics of effective
learning:

Creating and thinking critically –
thinking

- Having their own ideas
- Making links
- Choosing to do things

Characteristics of effective
learning:

Active learning - **motivation**

- Being involved and concentrating
- Keep trying
- Enjoying and achieving what they set out to do

Communication and Language

We will continue to help the children:

- ✓ Describe events in some detail.
- ✓ Use talk to help work out problems and organise thinking and activities, and to explain how things work and why they might happen.
- ✓ Listen to and talk about stories to build familiarity and understanding.

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

We will continue to help the children:

- ✓ See themselves as a valuable individual.
- ✓ Express their feelings and consider the feelings of others through circle time, R.E and stories such as the Rainbow Fish.
- ✓ Show resilience and perseverance in the face of challenge.
- ✓ Think about the perspectives of others.

Physical Development

- ✓ Develop their small motor skills so that they can use a range of tools competently, safely and confidently.
- ✓ We will be starting our P.E sessions with the sports coach. Please can all children have a P.E kit in school ALL WEEK with each piece of clothing clearly named. The children should be able to change themselves independently.

Literacy

We have now finished Phase 2 of letters and sounds. We will continue to consolidate the children's understanding, pronunciation, recall and ability to write the different graphemes taught to date. In addition we will continue to support the children's blending and segmenting skills for reading and writing. Phase 3 of letters and sounds includes the following:

/j/x/w/x/y/z/zz/qu/ch/sh/th/ng

Children will also start to write CVC words using their phonics knowledge and start to take reading books home. Reading books will also be sent home this term.

Mathematics

- ✓ Introduce zero
- ✓ Compare numbers to 5
- ✓ Composition of 4 & 5
- ✓ Compare mass and capacity
- ✓ Explore the numbers: 6, 7 and 8
- ✓ Making pairs
- ✓ Combine two groups

Understanding the World

We will be:

- ✓ Learning about the Great Barrier Reef. Simple facts such as what it is and where it is.
- ✓ Learn about Eugenie Clark, who was a marine biologist who researched shark behaviour.
- ✓ Think about and discuss sea pollution and how plastic can impact the lives of different sea animals. We will also discover more about the animals that live in the sea and the environment that they live in.
- ✓ In R.E, our key question to guide the learning is 'How did Jesus affect some of the people he met?' We will be looking at different stories from the Bible and think about how Christians believe Jesus was a friend to all that he met.

Expressive Arts and Design

- ✓ We will be going to the hall to listen to sea inspired music and think carefully about how different sea animals move. We will then have a go at improvising different movements that reflect the different animals.
- ✓ We will receive a letter from the Rainbow Fish asking the children to create their own sparkly Rainbow Fish.
- ✓ In music we will continue to learn different nursery rhymes and action songs. Once confident in this we will then start exploring key musical vocabulary such as pitch and tempo.