

# Theme: Mighty Machines

Date: Autumn 2017

## Numeracy

Practise multiplication tables with your child. TT Rockstars! Useful website:  
<http://www.bbc.co.uk/skillswise/numbers/wholenumbers/multiplication/timestables/index.shtml>

Learn fraction, decimals and percentages equivalences.

Useful website:

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/skillswise/numbers/fraction/decimalpercentage/comparing/comparingall3/game.shtml>

Try some open ended investigations to get you and your child thinking!

<http://www.figurethis.org/index.html>

<http://mathsinvestigations.com/>

## Science

Useful websites to help with this term's science topics on investigative science and electricity include:

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/education/topics/z2882hv>

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/ks2/science>

Helpful electricity websites and videos:

<http://www.explainthatstuff.com/electricity.html>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=js7Q-r7G9ug>

## How you can help

Help with homework. Encourage children to present their work to a high standard.

Homework is set on Fridays and should be returned by the following Wednesday at the latest.

Children will always have their reading book, spellings and times tables to learn. Spellings run Wednesday to Wednesday. Please ensure they practise and return the sheet.

They will also receive a piece of maths or English homework on a Friday.

## Topic

Show an interest in your child's learning.

This term's topic is called Mighty Machines. It is focused around playgrounds and fairgrounds. It is based on the novel 'Cogheart' by Peter Bunzl. Encourage visits to the library/ use of the internet.

## Spelling

Children are learning the Year 5 and 6 spellings with some objectives lasting 2 weeks. A useful website for helping with the learning of spellings using the Look Cover Say Write Check approach is Spellings Checker -

<http://www.crickweb.co.uk/ks2literacy.html>

## Reading

**Listen to your child read.** Ask questions about the books they have read:

### Fiction books:

- What did you think about the beginning of the story? Did it make you want to read more?
- Were you happy with the ending? Can you think of an alternative ending?
- Which part did you enjoy most? Why?
- Did any part of the story surprise you? Why?
- How did you feel when...?
- Which was your favourite character? Why?
- Was there a character that you did not like? Why?
- Can you think of a question that you would like to ask one of the characters?
- Which character would you most like to be?
- How do you think the character felt when...?
- Why do you think that character behaved in that way?
- What clues were there about...?
- Did you expect ... to happen?
- What do you think... thought when...?
- If... could speak when... what would they say?
- How does the illustration on page ... make you feel?

### Non-fiction books:

- How helpful was the contents page?
- Did the glossary help you to understand any of the words that you did not understand before?
- Can you tell me one piece of information you have remembered from the book?
- Which illustration did you find most interesting and why?
- Were there any questions that you thought of that weren't answered in the book?
- How helpful were the diagrams/ photographs/captions/tables/statistics?

### Suggested Reading:

As we are looking at mystery stories, we recommend the following free readers:

- The London Eye Mystery, Siobhan Dowd
- Stormbreaker, Anthony Horowitz
- The Demon Headmaster, Gillian Cross
- Goth Girl, Chris Riddell

We have these titles at school.

Encourage your child to use the full range of punctuation in their work:

