

TOPIC LESSONS

Introduction:

Topic lessons during the week provide an opportunity to extend & explore the content of the theme in more detail. The theme may and often should be included in other areas of learning throughout the week but in topic lessons the theme can be explored in depths giving pupils plenty of opportunities to explore, play and investigate resources in order to make connections and extend their learning in all cross curriculum elements.

In this context teachers will need to provide plenty of opportunities for pupils to initiate their own learning and build on skills in communication, play skills, thinking and problem solving skills and ICT as appropriate. The majority of learning will take place in these cross curricular elements but there will be some learning related to the theme – particularly for those learners who are working with in the cohort of concrete learners.

Staff should build on pupils’ initiated learning by providing a range of learning opportunities in either a ‘free flow’ or ‘carousel’ format. Some but NOT all lessons will need an adult led group time but on the whole SLD learners do not learn in this group situation. For more detail see Introduction to SOW

It should be noted that some topics below lend themselves to continual teaching for half a term where as others need more flexibility. Therefore there are 2 themes for each term and teachers can creatively plan how and when to deliver the topic lessons. In some terms it will be best to see the 2 themes as half termly adventures, in others the 2 themes may need to run concurrently.

The long term plan therefore looks like this:

NB Note for Dec 16: Swan will start with Years 1-3 Spring A (vehicles & Weather)

Darwin will start with Years 7-8 Spring A (Making Journeys, Consequences of Weather)

Years 1-3

	Year A	Year B	Year C
Autumn	Parties and Birthdays Mixing and Separating	All about me Materials	Fairy tales Discover & Do
Spring	Vehicles Weather	Ickenham People who help us in school	Construction Colours
Summer	Made by me Water, sand or more	Circus In the Garden	Making things work Animals: Pets & Farm

Year 4-6

	Year A	Year B	Year C
Autumn	Special Events Heating & Cooling	Celebrating Me What are things made of?	Stories from around the world Opposites
Spring	Roads & Railways	Using my own community	Houses & Homes

	Seasons	People who help us in the community	The Rainbow
Summer	Bags and Boxes Growing Gardens	Making Music Allotments	How things work Animals: Wild & Zoo

Year 7-8

	Year A	Year B	Year C
Autumn	Religious Festivals Recycle and Reuse	Looking after me Combinations	In the News Explorers
Spring	Making Journeys Consequences of Weather	Shops and shopping centres Helping Others	Inside and out Kaleidoscope
Summer	Lights, Camera, Action Growing to Sell	The Theatre Buy or Make?	Machines in the home Animals: Birds & Fishes

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