

Challenge Curriculum

September—December 2023

Is it all Elementary?

Key Focus areas

4 elements (earth, wind, fire, water)

East Asia

Mystery stories

Challenge 1: What do we mean by elements?

English Language: the elements of nature—earth wind fire and water—or much more?

A journey into what can be meant by elements.

Words derived from the word element

Language rules, fundamentals, small amounts, chemistry, weather conditions—and much more.

Elements of style: how might this help us to develop our writing?

Music: the rudiments of music

How to read a simple music score (notation, time signatures, performance directions and signs)



Challenge 2: Shall we play Sherlock?

English: features of mysteries.

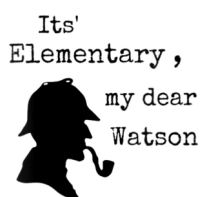
Writing a crime story

Core texts to include:

Sherlock Holmes stories

(build on work about Victorian London

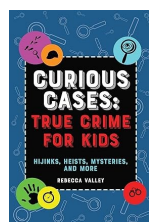
John Snow and how he discovered cholera.)



The Swifts: Mystery, Mischief, Murder

Clarity Jones and the Magical Detective Agency

The above are examples of texts which might be explored throughout the term, but final books chosen will be according to interests of the children.



Exploring true crimes

Science: forensic science.

genetics, DNA, bones, fingerprinting, blood types.

Challenge 3: What are the delights and dangers of our 4 elements of nature?

Safety: fire safety, water safety

Science: States of matter (physical chemistry)

Individual states (solids, liquids, gases) and their properties. The transition between states. Investigations such as the effect of salt on ice, what happens when we put a balloon in the freezer, exploring viscosity of liquids such as oil.

Separating mixtures (chromatography).

Air resistance and flight (forces)

Geography: Water. Ponds. Rivers and canals. Clean rivers for people and wildlife. Natural disasters (floods and fires.) Flood defences. Link to climate change. Local focus. Local visits.



Music: Handel (Royal Fireworks and water music theme)

Various songs linked to elements to be incorporated into events and production. Songs by 'Earth. Wind and Fire.'

Campfire songs

Outdoor learning focus: activities from 'Outdoors and Up for It' The next phase of our pond area development.



These are broad areas and possible curriculum objectives, which will be developed in more detail according to pupil interests.

Challenge 4: What defines East Asia?

Geography: Countries of East Asia. What is a megacity? (Tokyo, Osaka, Seoul, Beijing, Shanghai, Chongqing)

Transport (bullet trains, Maglev and link with science)

DT (food and nutrition): Korean cuisine (kimchi pancakes, bibimab, tteokbokki etc.)

Japanese cuisine: miso soup, ramen, onigiri (the portable food of Japan) gyoza, sushi,.

Cup noodles. Make your own cup noodle. Compare and contrast noodles of East Asia.

Languages: Korean alphabet. Greetings.

Music: concepts of East Asian music. K Pop (song Dynamite)

History and current affairs: Korea– a divided country

Japanese history and culture: what happens when a coun-
long period of time. Sakoku (period of isolation from foreign
on culture today. History of the Edo period. Samauris and Shoguns.

RE: Shintoism

SMSC: compare the 5 elements in Taoism and in Godai (Japanese philosophy) to our 4 elements of nature

Festivals and traditions including Otsukimi, Daruma dolls

DT: Gachapon: create a gachapon machine for the school.

Art and Design: make a Daruma doll from clay Manga and anime

The artist Hokusai. Ukiyo-e genre of art. Landscape artworks eg. Mount Fuji, the Great Wave

ICT: using google translate to support with accessing information in different lan-
guages. Artificial Intelligence.

Avatar and the Last Airbender - does this highlight parts of East Asian culture?



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Challenge 5? Elemental: A City for Everyone?

English: Elemental. Graphical novel and novel

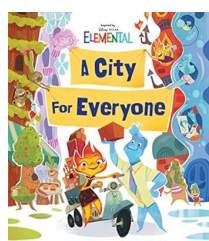
SMSC and PSHE: explore key mes-
sages. Diversity, building connec-
tions, tolerance,

Link to ongoing work on themes
such as migration, immigration,
refugees and racism.

Art and design: the Art of Ele-
mental

Glass art (the work of Dale Chihuly)

Making and using charcoal



Challenge 6? Elemental: what is the element in the room?

Science: investigating ele-
ments in science. Join Sherlock
Ohms on his investigations and
solve mysteries about how eve-
rything came to exist (the ori-
gins of chemistry through car-
toons.)

Discovery of particles, Dalton
and the idea of elements being made up of atoms, the
stories of how protons, electrons and neutrons were
discovered. The periodic table and grouping of ele-
ments. Scientists who contributed to this work and
stories such as Marie Cure and radium.



Discretely taught subjects:

PE: sessions will continue in the village hall, in the playground or on the Grange (usually on Wednesdays)

Computing and ICT: coding, using google translate to support learning

German: This will be linked, theme wise, where appropriate.

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