



We have had a brilliant half term learning all about castles. The children have really enjoyed exploring this topic and have shown lots of curiosity through their discussions and activities.

Throughout the half term, we have been learning about why castles were built, who built them, and the different ways they were designed to keep people safe. The children have also explored how castles were constructed, thinking about the materials used and the different parts of a castle, such as towers, walls and moats.

We have also learned about the people who lived and worked in castles, including kings, queens, knights and servants, and what daily life might have been like for them. The children have enjoyed imagining life in a castle and using their knowledge during play, discussions and creative activities.

Next half term, the children will be taking part in a bike course, where they will learn how to ride a bike or develop their existing riding skills over the course of the week. The sessions will begin on Monday 13th April.

As part of the course, helmets will be provided and shared between the children. If you would prefer your child to use their own helmet, please send it into school with them on Monday 13th April. **All bikes are provided in school, please do not bring in your child's bike.**

## What are we learning? What changes and grows using the principle of circles and cycles?

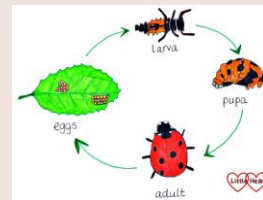
Next half term our learning theme will be **Circles and Cycles**. We will explore how living things grow and change over time. The children will learn about how plants and animals develop, and we will also plant our own seeds so we can watch them grow. Over the weeks, children will use their observation skills to notice and talk about the different stages of plant growth. In Science, we will continue learning about minibeasts, discovering where they live and what they need to survive. In Geography, we will be learning about the United Kingdom.

The children will explore the four countries that make up the UK, their capital cities, and the seas that surround them. We will also look at some of the UK's natural features, such as cliffs and beaches, and talk about how people use these places and how we can help to look after them.

**Resources needed:** As part of our Art leaning next half term we will need the following:

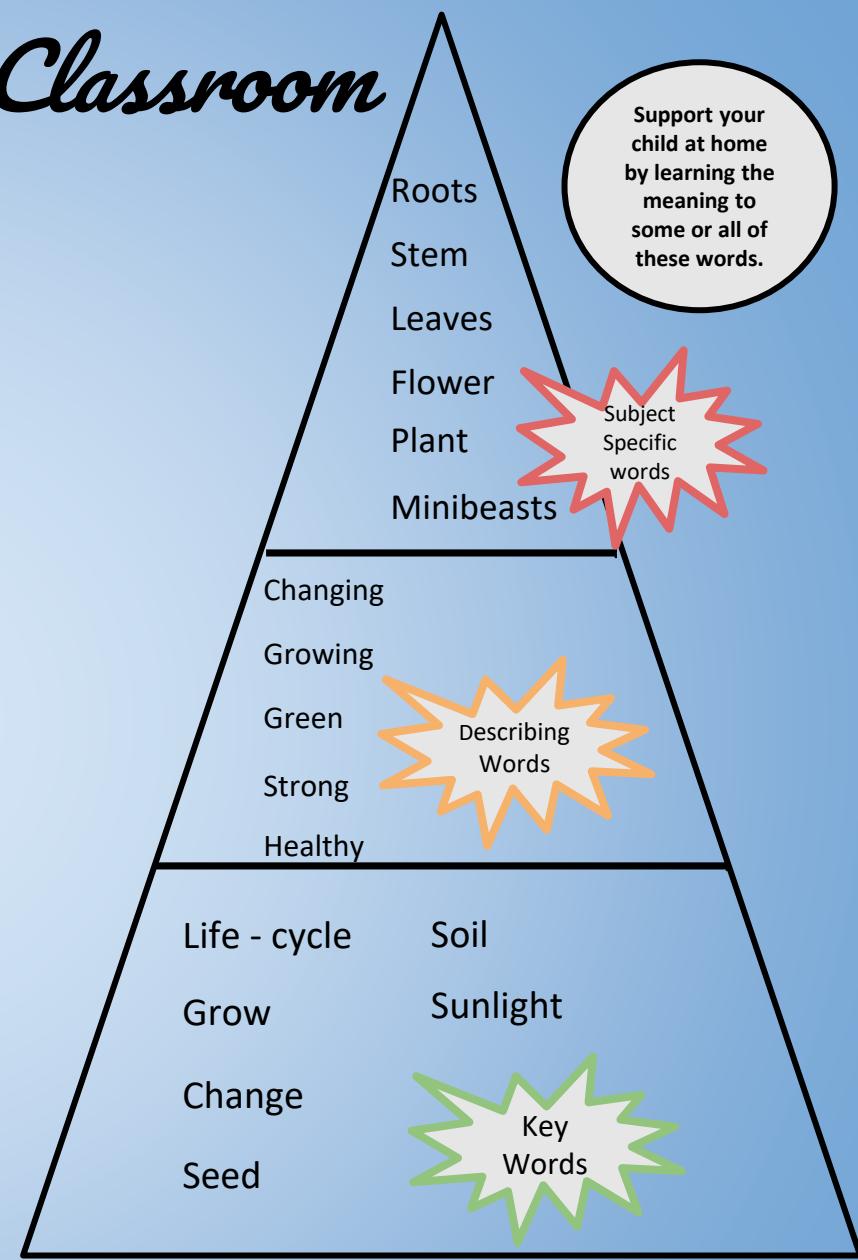
Buttons  
Ribbon  
Lace  
Wool

Shiny paper or foil  
If you have any of these items at home, please send them into school during the first week back.



# Optional Learning Beyond the Classroom

<p><b>Outside</b></p>	<p>Go on a <b>minibeast hunt</b> in your garden, a park, or on a walk. See how many different minibeasts you can find (for example: worms, snails, ants, spiders or ladybirds).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Draw the minibeasts you find.</li> <li>• Can you count how many legs they have?</li> <li>• Where did you find them living?</li> </ul> <div data-bbox="886 319 1158 568" style="border: 2px solid purple; border-radius: 50%; padding: 10px; text-align: center;"> <p>If you choose to do any of these activities we would love for you to bring in photos to share with your class.</p> </div>
<p><b>Things to do</b></p>	<p>Plant a <b>seed</b> at home (such as cress, beans, or sunflower seeds). Watch how it grows and draw pictures each week to show the changes.</p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;"> <div data-bbox="354 701 547 945"> </div> <div data-bbox="797 701 1145 945"> </div> </div>
<p><b>Make and do</b></p>	<p>Create a <b>minibeast hotel</b> using natural materials such as: sticks, leaves, bark, pinecones</p> <p>Place it in a quiet spot outside and check over time to see if any minibeasts move in.</p> <div data-bbox="886 1025 1158 1293"> </div>



*Words to help with my learning*