

# Scheme of Learning: Childhood (Summer Year 7)

## Topic Sequence:

1	2	3	4
Trash – a novel by A. Mulligan	19 <sup>th</sup> Century childhood texts	20 <sup>th</sup> -21 <sup>st</sup> Century childhood texts	'Shakefest' (Shakespeare in performance)

## Topic Overview:

The topic explores childhood experiences across different cultures and different time periods. Texts vary in their level of challenge, with extracts from 19<sup>th</sup> Century literature to help build pupils' resilience in reading more challenging texts. Pupils will be encouraged to develop empathy for others, use inference skill to understand texts at a deeper level and begin to explore how language choices influence the reader. When writing about these texts, pupils will practice using tentative language and embedding evidence to support their ideas. Through the study of a whole novel, pupils will further use their skills of empathy as well as predicting, speculating, questioning and be encouraged to make links to wider knowledge. The 'Shakefest' event will introduce pupils to Shakespeare's 'The Tempest'; the study will include interpreting characters and presenting ideas through drama.

## Lesson Sequence:

The topic starts with a study of the novel 'Trash' by Andy Mulligan to gain insight into the lives of children in other, less developed countries. Pupils will explore themes such as friendship, corruption, justice as well as responding creatively to the characters and their relationships. As with all literature, pupils will have to use well chosen evidence to support ideas/viewpoints about texts. They will utilise a whole range of readings skills such as prediction, speculating, inference, questioning and using wider knowledge to read the text at a deeper level. Pupils will take an active part in the reading of the text, allowing them to develop their speaking skills.

Next, pupils will examine of childhood in the 19<sup>th</sup> Century through the use of high-quality extracts from literary classics. Pupils will look at school experiences as presented in these texts and begin to look at how writers create effects. After reading a selection of texts, pupils will make links between them and their own lives to see how society has developed over time.

After looking at 19<sup>th</sup> Century literature, pupils move on to 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> Century texts which includes poetry. Pupils will explore how poets use the form of poetry to communicate ideas and feelings. Creative tasks will help to engage readers in the texts to help build a love of poetry. Again, pupils will be encouraged to link these texts to their own lives and to discuss how these poems 'speak to them'.

Next, pupils will look at some non-fiction articles about childhood issues. They will read these texts carefully, and follow the arguments put forward by the writer. They will think about how writers present viewpoints and explore what methods are effective in doing so.

The 'Shakefest' event will involve pupils reading and enjoying Shakespeare. They will study Shakespeare through drama and then craft their own performance in groups before celebrating the very best examples in the grand finale.

Throughout year 7, pupils will also complete fortnightly 'Reading Comprehension' lessons through the first half term and fortnightly 'Writing Challenge' through the second. These are designed to improve pupils' ability to read and comprehend a variety of texts and provide regular opportunities for pupils to write creatively, independently, and at length. 'Literary Allusions' are taught as regular lesson starters, in order to build knowledge of those events and characters (both literary and historical) which are often alluded to in English Literature.

Two homework tasks are also included in this topic: a reading passport for students to record regular reading and a 'Toynbee Talks' task to be delivered in class during the first week following the half term break.

## Sequence of Topic:

1	Trash (novel study)
2	Jane Eyre extract
3	Hard Times extract
4	A Letter about Ragged Schools
5	Watercress Girl
6	Jane Eyre extract 2
7	David Copperfield extract
8	Matilda extract
9	Tich Miller (poem)
10	In Mrs Tilscher's Class (poem)
11	To A Daughter Leaving Home (poem)
12	Non-fiction articles
13	Blessing (poem)
14	Shakesfest

## Topic Resources:

<b>Knowledge Map:</b>	1. Childhood 2. Trash	<b>Any other Resources:</b>	19 <sup>th</sup> -21 <sup>st</sup> Century Anthology Trash (novel)
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## Assessment:

<b>Knowledge:</b>	Multiple choice knowledge test
<b>Application of Knowledge:</b>	Reading of Literature – and exploration of an extract from Charlie and The Chocolate Factory

## Supportive Reading:

<b>Range of novels about childhood</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Jane Eyre</li> <li>Matilda</li> <li>Oliver Twist</li> <li>Boy 87</li> <li>Alone on a Wide Wide Sea</li> </ul> <p>Suggested linked reading can also be found on the year 7 'Reading Passport'</p>
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