

# A TWIST IN THE TAIL

YEAR 5 LEARNING NEWSLETTER | SUMMER 1



## HOOK

*"I'll take you to Africa, where our lion came from, where my Bertie came from too ... You ever been to Africa?"*

*"Well you're going," she said. "We're both going." Suddenly, I wasn't hungry any more. All I wanted now was to hear her story. She sat back in her chair, gazing out of the window.*

*She told it slowly, thinking before each sentence; and all the while she never took her eyes off the butterfly lion. And neither did I."*

In our Year 5 Hook day, the children are introduced to Bertie and his white lion cub from our rich read, 'The Butterfly Lion'. Using Chromebooks, they research one of the animals that Bertie can see at the waterhole from his compound in Africa.

## MAIN FOCUS

- **English** where the children will write in role as Bertie and the lion, focusing on emotion and suspense.
- **Science** where the children will learn about plant reproduction, animal and human life cycles.
- **Music** where the children will learn drumming techniques, rhythm and composition.
- **Art** where the children will create a portrait focusing on proportions of a lion's face on a map of the African Savannah.
- **Computing** where the children will collect information and mail merge to create animal top trump cards on Google Docs.

## OUTCOME

The children will be creating their own African Extravaganza at the end of the topic and we would like to invite parents or carers in to be their audience!

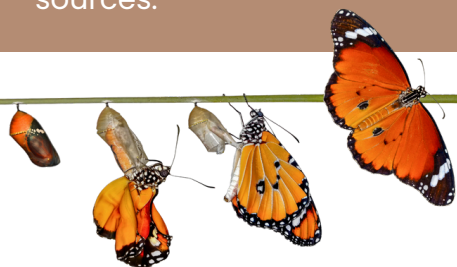
Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> May at 09.15  
*(More information to follow)*

# LEARNING EXPERIENCES

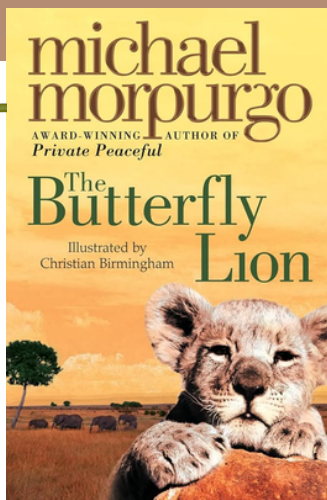
- **English:** investigating characters and setting, exploring techniques to convey emotion and suspense, ordering and justifying ideas, using figurative language and writing in the style of an author.
- **Science:** using diagrams to record information, observing the life cycle of butterflies and exploring how plants reproduce.
- **Music:** learning how to play djembe drums, play simple rhythms and compose drumming rhythms in groups.
- **Art:** experimenting with sketching to create perspective using animal faces and using different techniques (shading and hatching) for different purposes within their work.
- **Computing:** creating a table in Google Sheets using cells and the toolbar then adding a simple formula to the spreadsheet to combine 2 values. They will then mail merge an image via a link.

These subjects are not linked to the topic:

- **PSHE:** understanding how medicines can help and prevent allergies and how vaccines can help prevent disease. They will also look at how bacteria and viruses can affect health.
- **RE:** looking at rituals and the Muslim religious festivals of Ramadan and Eid through secondary sources.



We observe the process of caterpillars transforming into butterflies!



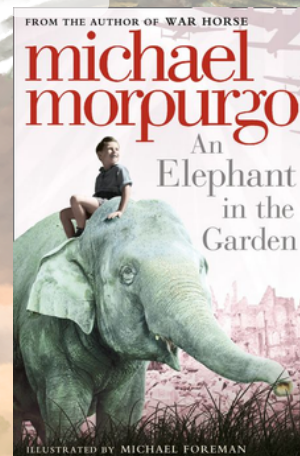
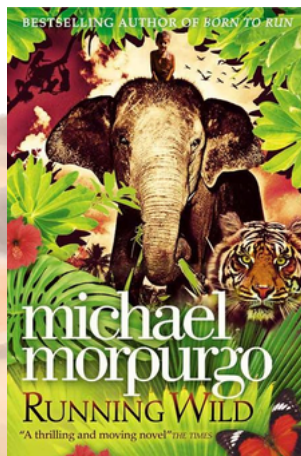
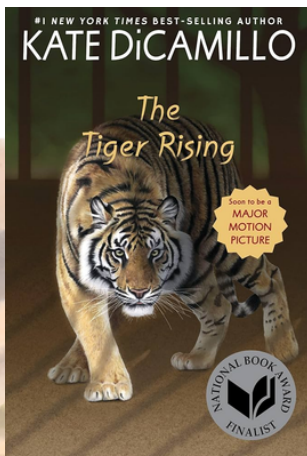
**RICH READ**

## TOPIC WORDS

savannah, lion, Veld, landscape, orizon, compound, rhythm, equator, continent, beat, country, Bertie, heroic, waterhole, butterfly, Timbavati, adonis blue, zebra

## SPELLINGS

practice, practise, allowed, aloud, guessed, guest, cereal, serial, desert, dessert, muscle, vehicle



If you child enjoys 'The Butterfly Lion', they may also like these!

## HOME LEARNING



n Upper School, your child has two weekly home learning tasks:

- 1) Reading - due every Thursday
- 2) Times Tables - due every Thursday

To complete the Space Race, they will need to read three times a week and record it in their reading diary. For times tables, they will need to play at least five games a week on

TTRS.

