

Y4 English

What they need to know...

This half term we are exploring non narrative writing, specifically information writing. Around Christmas time, we will be looking at a range of poems and exploring their themes and features.

The objectives which link to this unit of work include:

- Using paragraphing to indicate shifts in subject
- Using organisational devices such as subheadings

Grammar and punctuation

Our objectives this half term will be:

- Identifying the main and the subordinate clause in a complex sentence.
- Writing using a full range of sentence types (simple, compound and complex).

Take one book!

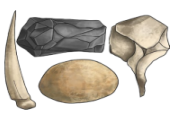
Can you find an example of an information text at home, in your local library or in the school library? What makes an information book different from a story or a poem? Try to find an information book that contains a glossary of terms. This is normally at the back of the book and it works like a dictionary. All of the words that are specific to the subject matter are listed alphabetically and briefly explained.

Pick any topic that you're interested in and create a glossary of terms for that topic. This could be anything from the Stone Age, to Space to Minecraft or even Unicorns!

Here's an example to give you an idea.

Bring in your glossary to share with the class.

Stone Age Glossary	
Term and definition	
A	adze: A tool for cutting away wood, similar to an axe. It has arched blades at right angles. ancestor: A deceased member of a family from quite far back in the family tree. You are descended from your ancestors. archaeology: The science of studying things from the past and piecing parts of history together from the evidence found. Australopithecus: An ape-like ancestor of human beings. The first hominid to walk upright.
B	awl: A small pointed tool, used for making holes in hides. barter: The exchange of goods without using money.



Wonderful websites

Grammar

[Topmarks](#) a range of different games focussing on grammar rules.

You can find some interesting topic areas for your glossary on these websites:

[Sciencekids](#)

[Spacekids](#)

[National Geographic animals](#)

Let's write...



Use the information you gathered for your glossary to write your own **information leaflet** about the topic that you chose. You may want to **write notes** first, that you can later turn into full sentences. Try not to just copy and paste from the internet—put things into your own words.

Think about the following:

- Contents page
- Subheadings
- Paragraphs
- Diagrams and pictures
- Technical vocabulary
- Range of sentence types

Make sure your layout is clear and eye-catching.

Bring your information leaflet in to share with your class.

Informational Text Features

Diagram
A diagram shows the parts of something.

Table of Contents
The table of contents helps the reader to find the page a topic is on in the book.

Photographs
A photograph is a picture. It uses light to capture an image. It gives the reader more information about a topic.

By: Sunny and Bright in First Grade

Grammar fun

Antonyms

You might want to try this activity later this half term, as it will go with our poetry work.

Find out what type of word an antonym is and write a definition.

Think of ten different words and their antonyms.

If you want an extra challenge have a go at putting the words you have chosen and their antonyms into a simple poem.

Use the silence poem opposite (we will be looking at this poem in class later this half term) to help you.

*silence silence silence
silence silence silence
silence silence
silence silence silence
silence silence silence*