

# The Semi-Formal Curriculum @fountaindale.notts.sch.uk



## Thematic Handbook

Delivery of the Semi-Formal Curriculum

The semi-formal curriculum delivers much of its learning through a thematic approach rather than following National Curriculum foundation subjects.

The delivery of the core learning will be driven by the needs of the learners in a particular class. At the core of the delivery is a text reflecting the theme for the term.

Learning plans are used to personalise learning intentions for individual pupils (see The Semi-formal Curriculum Handbook for more information)

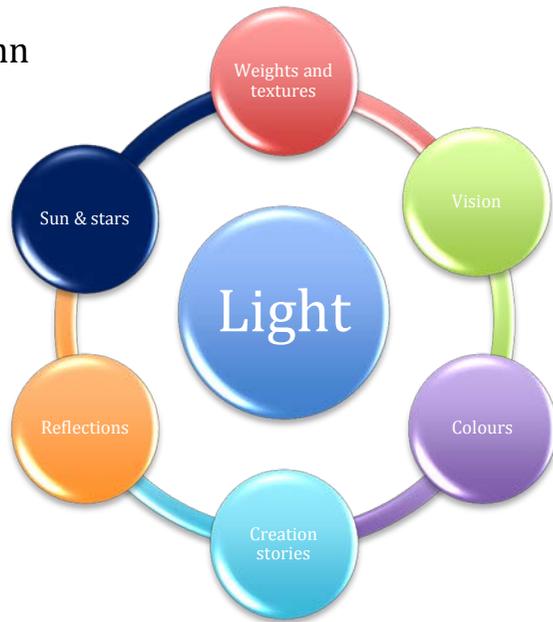
## The Topics and Themes

Semi-formal themes run in a four-year cycle with a new theme each term. The themes are then broken down further into topics. The theme can then be delivered through one or more of these topic areas, dependent upon the pupils in the curriculum that year and the texts chosen. The semi-formal classes run as parallel groups, using the same topic areas and texts, to deliver the theme.

Once a topic area and text have been chosen, a topic map is created to show learning areas and activities to be carried out over the term. This is broken down into the learning areas; Cognition, Communication and Language; Mathematical Thinking and Problem Solving; Thinking Scientifically; Personal, Social, Spiritual and Emotional; The World Around Us; Arts and Creativity; and Physical Development.

# Cycle 1

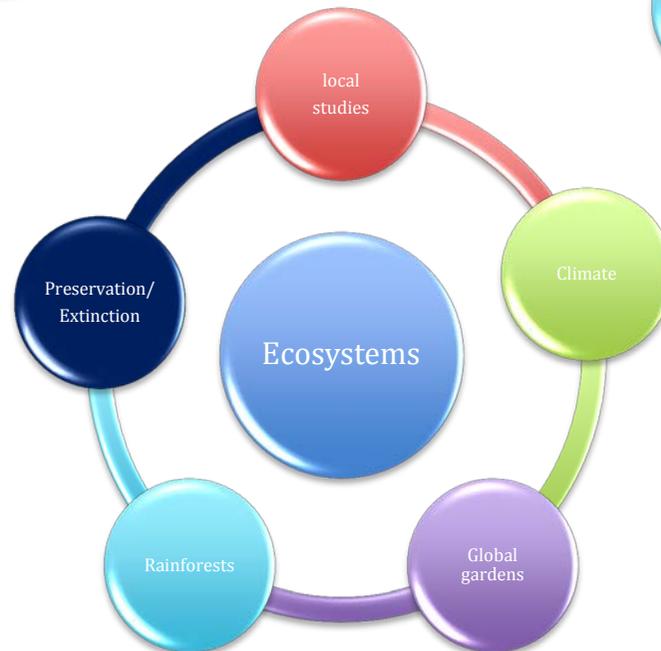
Autumn



Spring



Summer



# Up and Down the Andes

Cognition,  
Communication  
and Language

Sensory story.  
Learning the names of the modes of transport.  
Identifying them from the sounds they make,  
Take part in role play of the story  
Looking at up and down writing patterns

Mathematical  
Thinking and  
Problem Solving

Positional language  
Sorting and matching multicoloured corn  
Shape and colour patterns  
Counting children/modes of transport  
Times of the day

Physical  
Development

Journeys and travelling  
Festival dances  
Obstacle courses

The World Around Us

Hills, mountains and lakes  
Handle Peruvian artefacts

Thinking  
Scientifically

BeeBot journeys  
Floating and Sinking  
Pushes and Pulls  
Forwards and backwards

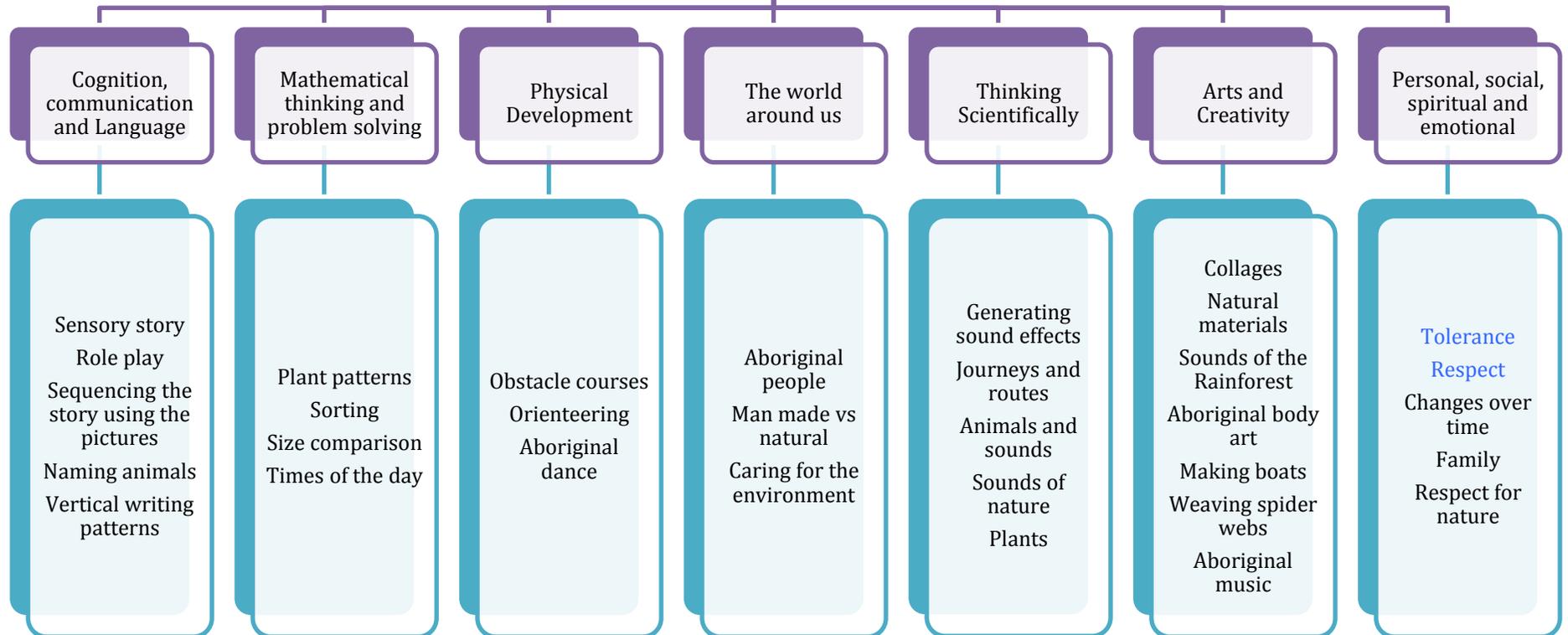
Arts and Creativity

Creating costumes and headresses to accompany the story.  
Nazca line patterns  
Colourful collages  
Worry dolls  
Food for festivals  
Peruvian musical instruments

Personal, Social,  
Spiritual and  
Emotional

*Tolerance*  
*Respect*  
Festivals and feasts  
Family and friends  
Helping others

# Where the Forest Meets the Sea



# The Hidden Forest

Cognition,  
communication  
and Language

AQA units -  
71489/85263/8  
287  
Sensory story  
Sound of the sea  
way lined  
writing patterns  
sequencing and  
retelling of the  
story  
Taking part in  
role play.

Mathematical  
thinking and  
problem solving

AQA units -  
79995/75199/7  
998073696  
Positional  
language  
Sorting and  
matching fish  
Shape and  
colour patterns  
Counting  
fish/sea weed  
Times of the day

Physical  
Development

Motion of the  
ocean  
Journeys and  
travelling

The world  
around us

Seas and oceans  
Sea life and  
underwater  
habitats

Thinking  
Scientifically

AQA unit -  
93585  
Floating and  
sinking  
exploring  
artefacts from  
the sea  
matching and  
sorting sea  
artefacts  
Explore sea food

Arts and  
Creativity

AQA unit  
CE9131  
Collages and  
printing  
sea shanties  
Sounds of the  
sea  
Creating a  
underwater  
world

Personal, social,  
spiritual and  
emotional

Respect  
Understanding  
of right and  
Wrong  
Caring for our  
environment  
Helping friends