

# Year 2 Castles and Dragons

## Key Aim

Through our Geography and English teaching we will explore different cultures. We will look at selected castles in different continents. We will learn about Dragon mythology in many cultures such as George and the Dragon from England, Welsh and Chinese dragons. We will compare cities from Asia and Europe.

## Key Vocabulary:

China	Asia	Europe
Portsmouth	Zhanjiang	castle
Farlington	dragon	
compare	continent	
similarities	country	
differences	oceans and seas	
currency	population	
climate	culture	
traditions	Chinese New Year	

## Key facts:

Castles and dragons exist in many cultures. They have many similarities and differences. Cities in the country of China can be compared and contrasted with traditions and ways of life of a city in the UK, Portsmouth (with a focus on Farlington) Schools, the weather, the landscape, the economy, cultures, landmarks and the climate can all be compared.

## Quality Texts to Inspire Us:

Tell Me A Dragon by Jackie Morris  
The Pea and The Princess by Mini Grey

## Key Concepts and Skills:

### Geography

#### Place knowledge

- understand geographical similarities and differences through studying the human and physical geography of a small area of the United Kingdom, and of a small area in a contrasting non-European country
- to use world maps, atlases and globes to identify the countries studied

**YEAR 2**  
**Castles and Dragons**  
**Spring 1 2025**

Outcome:

*A comparison between a city in Asia and a city in Europe.*

Hook:

Princess and the Pea  
Tell Me A Dragon book by Jackie Morris



As **Readers**, we will:

- developing an enjoyment of reading and sharing books
- answer questions
- make inferences about what has been read
- compare books by the same or different authors
- read words containing common suffixes
- be introduced to non-fiction books that are structured in different ways
- check that the text makes sense and correct inaccurate reading

Key Texts:

- Own reading book
- Tell Me A Dragon by Jackie Morris
- The Pea and The Princess by Mini Grey

As **Writers**, we will:

- plan, write and re draft a story based on The Princess and the Pea
- write a non-chronological report about a dragon
- write sentences that are sequenced to form a short narrative (real or fictional)
- learn to spell more words with contracted forms
- spell some common exception words
- form lower-case letters of the correct size relative to one another in some of their writing
- write capital letters of the correct size, orientation and relationship to one another and to lower case letters
- learn the possessive apostrophe

Key Vocabulary:

- *sentence, capital letter, full stop, adjective, noun phrases*

Must Haves:

- learning to spell common exception words
- start using some of the diagonal and horizontal strokes needed to join letters and understand which letters, when adjacent to one another, are best left unjoined

As **Mathematicians**, we will:

**Fluency** add and subtract to 20 and from 20. Subtract and add one and two digit numbers

**Money** ♣ recognise and use symbols for pounds (£) and pence (p); combine amounts to make a particular value ♣ find different combinations of coins that equal the same amounts of money ♣ solve simple problems in a practical context involving addition and subtraction of money of the same unit, including giving change

**Addition and Subtraction** add and subtract numbers using concrete objects, pictorial representations, and mentally, including: ♣ a two-digit number and ones ♣ a two-digit number and tens ♣ two two-digit numbers ♣ adding three one-digit numbers ♣ show that addition of two numbers can be done in any order (commutative) and subtraction of one number from another cannot ♣ recognise and use the inverse relationship between addition and subtraction and use this to check calculations and solve missing number problems.

**Fractions** recognise, find, name and write fractions of a length, shape, set of objects or quantity (halves, quarters and thirds)

Key Vocabulary:

**Money:** pounds, pence, names of all the coins and notes, equivalents  
**Fractions:** half, quarter, third, part, whole  
**Addition and Subtraction:** represent, method, add, subtract, part, whole, number, calculate, problem

As **Scientists**, we will:

- find out and describe how plants need water, light and a suitable temperature to grow and stay healthy.
- observe closely using simple equipment.
- ask simple questions and recognise that they can be answered in different ways.
- perform simple tests.

Key Vocabulary:

Plant	stem	independent variable
Flower	leaf	dependent variable
Fruit	trunk	controlled variable
Vegetable	branch	compost
Herb	seed	
Blossom	sunlight	

As **Geographers** we will:

- describe physical and human geography of countries.
- compare and contrast the physical and human features of two different cities (Portsmouth and Zhanjiang)
- recap our knowledge of the United Kingdom, continents and oceans.
- use maps, atlases and aerial photographs within our learning.

Key Vocabulary:

Asia	Africa
Europe	Antarctica
Twin City	Australia
Portsmouth	compare
Zhanjiang	similarities / differences
North America	United Kingdom
South America	Human features
Castle	Physical features

As **Designers and Artists**, we will:

- use a range of materials creatively to design and make products
- use drawing, painting and sculpture to develop and share ideas, experiences and imagination
- develop a wide range of art and design techniques in using colour, pattern, texture, line, shape, form and space
- learn about the work of a range of artists, craft makers and designers, describing the differences and similarities between different practices and disciplines, and making links to their own work.

Key Vocabulary:

observe  
sketch  
draw  
paint  
create  
texture

As **Computer Technologists** we will:

Programming:

- describe a series of instructions as a sequence
- explain what happens when we change the order of instructions
- use logical reasoning to predict the outcome of a program
- explain that programming projects can have codes and artwork
- design an algorithm
- create and debug a program that I have written

Key Vocabulary:

Debug  
Algorithm  
Program  
Outcome  
Sequence  
Code  
Instruction  
Beebot

In **PE** we will:

- learn to perform balances and movements, and combine them into a routine
- link balances with other travelling moves, moving smoothly into and out of the balances
- safely use benches and mats to develop sequences
- work with a partner to create a sequence of gymnastic actions
- use benches and mats to explore balances on different levels
- move safely on and around the apparatus
- mirror and match a partner

Key Vocabulary:

Balance	routine	travelling
Sequences	actions	levels
Mirror and match		share

In **PSHE** we will:

- explore how to be a good friend
- talk about positive play
- recognise loneliness and hurtful behaviour
- know the difference between happy surprises and secrets

Key Vocabulary:

friendship	respect	relationships
kind	unkind	

As **Musicians**, we will:

- use voices expressively and creatively by singing songs and speaking chants and rhymes
- play tuned and untuned instruments musically
- listen with concentration and understanding to a range of high-quality live and recorded music
- experiment with, create, select and combine sounds using the inter-related dimensions of music

Key Vocabulary:

sing	
tuned instruments	untuned instruments
speed	timbre
beat	rhythm