

What We Are Learning This Week in Year 5

Week Commencing 13th April 2026

English

This week, we are going to be looking at non-fiction writing, focusing on how authors use language and imagery for effect. We will be reading a text based on the series 'Blue Planet II' by David Attenborough. We will be looking at how the author, Leisa Stewart-Sharpe, balances the technical scientific language with the imagery and excitement needed to entertain the reader. We will be looking at the meanings of a range of scientific language – you could find some more examples [here](#) (the section titled: 'Blue Planet II's message to humanity' - you will need to click on 'view complete article'). Look up any unknown words that you encounter.



Things to do at home:

Watch an episode of Blue Planet II on BBC iPlayer – they are currently all available to watch. How does Attenborough make sure that he is clear and precise? How does he engage his audience? Look at the balance between scientific fact and being entertaining.

This week's spellings:

| | | | | |
|-----------|---------|---------|-----------|----------|
| thorough, | enough, | though, | although, | thought, |
| through, | rough, | cough, | sought, | bought, |
| plough, | tough | | | |

Maths

In the first week back, we will be introducing the topic of co-ordinates to the children and specifically looking at points across all four quadrants. An introductory video can be found [here](#). Towards the end of the week we will be looking at translations and moving shapes from one quadrant to another. This [link](#) will aid the children in understanding the processes they will be following.

Things to do at home:

Discuss the terms vertical (top to bottom and bottom to top) and horizontal (side to side) with your child and look at the information on this [link](#).

In Other Subjects

In our French lessons, we will be learning new vocabulary relating to types of habitats. This will link with our weather topic from the autumn term. We will attempt to use other familiar words in sentences to try and understand what their meaning could be before using a French-English dictionary to confirm our initial guesses. The unit will end with the children orally presenting simple facts about their chosen habitats.