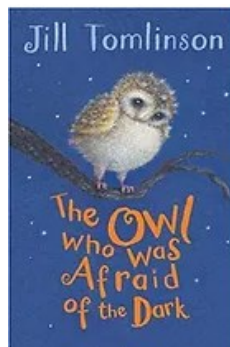
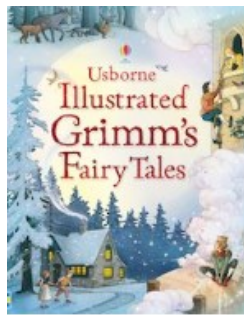
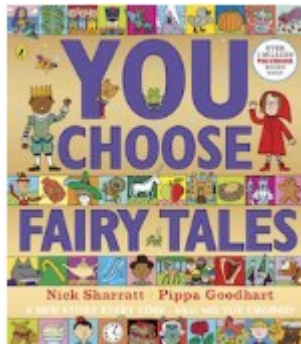


### Theme Overview

'Happily Ever After' is a thematic unit, based around fairy tales, with a key focus on literacy and drama. It is designed to help us develop a love of stories, as well as providing a vehicle for communication through creative art work. The science element of this theme is based on the story of The Ugly Duckling, focusing on living things, especially birds, life cycles and habitats.

### Recommended Reading...



Access books online for free through Hampshire School Library Service. Ask your child's teacher for their barcode/login information.

### What we should know...

#### What?

**What are the differences between living and never been alive?**

Living things:

- Feed
- Need air
- Move
- Produce Waste
- Reproduce
- Grow
- React to their surroundings



Things that have never been alive have never done any of these are rocks

### Life Cycles

- Life cycle means the stages a living thing goes through during its life.
- The frog's life cycle has four stages. First the egg, second the tadpole, third the froglet and the fourth stage is the adult frog.
- A bird's life cycle is egg, chick, then adult. A duck's life cycle is egg, duckling, then duck.
- Do you know what a butterfly starts its life cycle as?

### WHY?

**Why is an animal's habitat so important?**

An animals habitat is important as it is the place best suited to their needs. The main types of habitat are:

- desert
- meadow
- woodland
- Grassland
- Forest
- Seashore
- ocean

### WHEN?

**When do most farm animals have their young?**

In spring! It is the perfect time for babies to be born.

For grazing animals like cattle, sheep and horses, the fresh green grass and other plants in the fields in spring means better milk for their babies.

Also the weather is better and days are longer so the young are better protected.

### HOW?

**How do we identify an animal as a bird?**

- Birds have feathers
- Birds have wings
- Birds have pointed beaks.

Common types of birds are:

- Chickens
- Robins
- Owl
- Duck

Can you name some more?

## How to...

### take care of birds and their habitats

- Don't pick wild flowers. Their seeds can be an important food source for the birds
- Use less plastic and take your rubbish home
- Put out bird feeders, especially in winter
- Provide a regular supply of clean water for local birds.



## Key Vocabulary you should discuss with your child

**Adult:** a mature, fully developed person

**Habitat:** the home of an animal or plant

**Investigation:** to observe or study by close examination

**Life Cycle:** the stages a living thing goes through during its life

**Offspring:** a human or animal child

**Alive:** living, not dead

**Source:** the place something comes from or starts at

**Variety:** a collection of different kinds

**Young:** having lived for only a short time



## Concept Flow

- To know the difference between living things and things that have never been alive
- To identify and name a variety of birds
- To know that humans and other animals can produce offspring and that these can grow into adults

Please talk to your children about the information on this sheet. The more children discuss their learning the more likely they are to embed the learning to their memory. If you have any questions please don't hesitate to contact your child's class teacher.