

Parent Information

Climbing the battlements or tunnelling in the ground, there's a whole world of adventure and fun to be found!

This term, we will visit a real castle to explore the towers, battlements and maybe a secret tunnel or two! We'll learn all about the different parts of a castle and describe how they have changed over time. Using a wide range of materials, we'll build models of castles and test the strength of our structures. We'll learn the stories of *Rapunzel*, *The Three Little Pigs* and *The Three Billy Goats Gruff* and create models inspired by them. Maps and photographs will help us learn about the tallest buildings and the longest tunnels in the world. We'll find out about the amazing Victorian engineer, Isambard Kingdom Brunel, and improve our PE skills by playing attacking and defending games.

At the end of our project, we'll have so much to share! We'll display our amazing structures and share our knowledge in a special question and answer session.

Help your child prepare for their project

Towers, tunnels and turrets are everywhere! Why not visit a skyscraper, big wheel or tower? Look at the materials the structure is made of to decide why the materials were chosen. You could also use blocks or stones to create tall towers. How high can you go? Alternatively, play Jenga together and see if you can work out how to make the tower stay strong, even when you have removed some of the blocks!

Suggested text	Rapunzel - Sarah Gibb; The Three Billy Goats Gruff - Mara Aplerin; The Tunnel - Anthony Browne; Sir Scallywag and the Battle for Stinky Bottom - Giles Andreae; The Three Little Pigs - Mara Alperin
Memorable experience	Visit a local castle
Innovate challenge	Make a fortress for the three little pigs
English	Recounts; Reported speech; Narratives; Letters; Posters
D&T	Making models of towers, bridges and tunnels
A&D	Sculpture using natural materials
Computing	Drawing software
Geography	Amazing structures around the world; Towers and bridges in the local area
History	Castles and castle life; Significant individuals – Isambard Kingdom Brunel
PE	Defend and attack games; Balance and coordination
PSHE	Dilemmas
Science	Habitats; Everyday materials; Working scientifically
Science investigations	Can you make a paper bridge? Where do worms like to live?

Home learning ideas - What will you choose to do?

- Find out about famous engineers. Search the web and use non-fiction books to find out about their life and work. Draw a picture to show one of their most famous achievements and think about why their work was so important.
- Play a tumbling tower game such as Jenga, with your family. What are the best ways of keeping the tower upright? See if you can take some action shots or videos of the tower falling!
- Go on a bridge hunt with your grown ups around the local area, taking photographs to show your class. What types of bridge did you see? Choose the most interesting bridge and see what you can discover about it online or at the local library?
- Make a detailed diagram of a castle, labelling interesting features which might be found inside, or out. Perhaps you could find out about murder holes, garderobes or loopholes?
- Make an information book about castles, bridges or tunnels. Include downloaded images, as well as drawings and diagrams. What fascinating facts can you find out to amaze your family, friends and teacher?
- Design and create a model of a famous structure from around the world, using junk materials found at home. Will you choose London Bridge, the Leaning Tower of Pisa or perhaps the Statue of Liberty? Find a photograph of your chosen landmark to use as inspiration.
- Find, on a world map or globe, all the famous landmarks you would like to visit. Which continents are they in? How would you get there? Talk to your grown ups and explain your choices. Make a digital display showing images of your favourite places and giving information about each country or city.
- Design a fantastic new landmark for your local area! What materials would you use and what special features would it have? Think about how to make it stand out from other landmarks in the world. Plot your landmark on a map of your local area. Present your ideas to your class and perhaps take a vote for the winning design.
- Look at websites telling the story of The Three Little Pigs. Draw a storyboard with six or eight sections. Add captions and images which could be used to help you create a short stop motion animation. Make the animation if you have time.

