

Parent Information

Grab a magnifying glass, put on your deerstalker and change your name to Sherlock because we're going to become street detectives!

This half term, we'll follow a route around our local streets and take pictures of the buildings, businesses and plants we can see. Talking to residents about the area will help us understand how the local community could be improved. We'll learn nursery rhymes, write poetry and create persuasive adverts. Looking at photographs will help us to spot any similarities and differences between the houses and shops of today and the past. We'll find out about the history of our school and talk to former pupils about their experiences. We'll also study and draw maps, create a model of a local building, draw portraits of the people we have met and look at the work of urban artists.

At the end of our project, we'll design posters to advertise a 'Big spring clean' around school before cleaning and tidying the school grounds.

Help your child prepare for their project

Become street detectives and explore your local community. Why not visit a local museum to see what the local area was like in days gone by? You could also look up at the roofs of local buildings to spot interesting carvings and chimney shapes. Alternatively, read the book *A Street Through Time* by Steve Noon together to see how one street has changed over thousands of years.

Suggested text	The Elves and the Shoemaker - Vera Southgate and Robert Lumley; Little Red Riding Hood - Ladybird; Paddington Goes to Town - Michael Bond
Memorable experience	Walk around the local community
Innovate challenge	Improve the local area
English	Recounts and captions; Nursery rhymes; Instructions; Adverts; Diaries
History	Changes within living memory; Significant people; Places and events in the local area
A&D	Famous local artists; Creating views from the local area
Computing	Photo stories; Algorithms
D&T	Making models; Baking; Making signs; Designing buildings
Geography	Fieldwork in the local area; Human and physical features; Using and making maps; Aerial images
PE	Measurement; Statistics
PSHE	Belonging to a community; Improving the local area
Science	Everyday materials; Plants
Science investigations	How do plants grow in winter?

Home learning ideas - What will you choose to do?

- Keep your street diary updated with all the exciting things that happen in your street. Remember to use interesting adjectives and verbs.
- Look in detail at the outside of your own house and make a careful observational drawing.
- Draw a plan or map of your ideal neighbourhood. Who would you like to have living on your street? You might choose fairytale characters, sports champions or pop stars. What type of house would your ideal neighbours have? Create a key to show features on your map. What local amenities would your residents need? For example, Harry Potter might need a wand shop, and Rapunzel might need hairdressers!
- Visit your local museum with your grown ups. Handle some artefacts from homes in the past. Draw and write about them to show your friends at school. Can they use the pictures to guess what the artefacts were used for?
- Watch a clip of a film made to show what family life was like in the 1900s. Talk to your grown ups about how life was different for children in the past. Draw pictures and write some sentences to share at school.
- Arrange with your family to do something to improve the local community. This could be litter picking, helping a neighbour with some shopping or volunteering at a local charitable organisation. Take a picture of the work you did for your class blog. Write about how it made you feel.
- Interview someone who has lived in your community for a long time, perhaps an elderly relative or neighbour you know well. What changes have they seen? Which things are better or worse today?
- Draw and label a design for your own fantasy home. What will your home be built from? How will you get in and out of your house? What will you have in your garden? Make a model of your fantasy house using junk materials.
- Watch time-lapse footage or look at step-by-step photographs of a house being built. Find out and list the types of building machinery needed to build a house. Draw or download images of each vehicle and write a description of what it is used for. Perhaps you could make a non-fiction book or PowerPoint presentation to show what you have found out?
- Visit a local shop with your grown up. Write a shopping list before you go. Pay for your shopping and working out your change.
- Make a leaflet or short film all about your local community. Include drawings, and photographs or footage to show what you can see and do in your local area. Write or record your thoughts on what it's like to live there as well as ideas for improving it.

