

Dimensions Curriculum

'Learning Means The World'

Theme Guide

'Learning Means The World' Theme Guide

Welcome to Dimensions

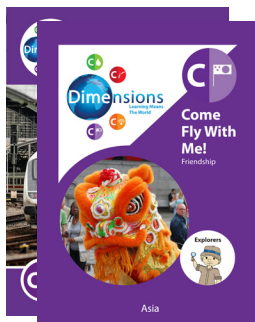


My name is Elaine Sutton and I'm the Founder and Creative Director of Dimensions Curriculum! I'd like to personally welcome you into the Dimensions family. After working alongside hundreds of primary schools globally, helping them develop curriculum that are tailor-made to meet the needs of their learners, we have taken best practice and used it to develop our latest version of the Dimensions Curriculum. We hope you find your curriculum development journey to be an exciting, rewarding and, above all, creative one! Take risks, try new things and use Dimensions to help bring learning to life at your school!



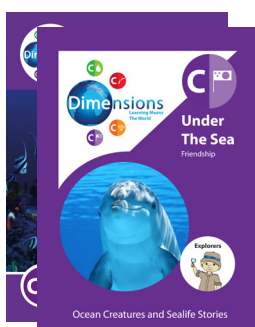
'Learning Means The World' Theme Guide Explorer Themes

Explorers 1 / 2

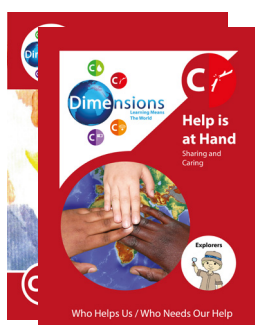


"Come Fly With Me! Asia" Pupils will learn about some key countries within Asia along with their customs and traditions under the headings:- China / Chinese Culture, India / Indian Culture, Egypt, Russia.

They will gain an appreciation of heritage on a more global scale which should lead to a better understanding of different cultures and what they have to offer. It should also develop pupils' tolerance and respect for people from backgrounds other than their own.

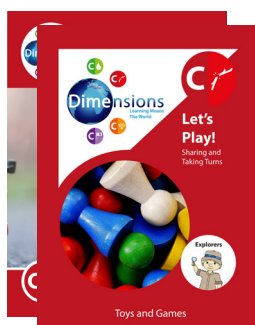


"Under the Sea" By using three story- based texts, 'The Rainbow Fish', 'Nugget and Fang' and 'The Lonely Lobster', pupils learn about friendship and the importance of respecting others whilst finding out more about life below the sea. Focus areas include funky fish, sharks, whales and dolphins and crazy crustaceans.



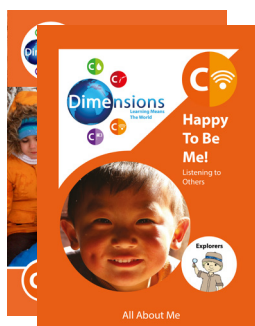
"Help is at Hand" Pupils will learn about the variety of ways in which people help them and how they can help others under the headings:- help is at home, help is at school, police, fire, ambulance, doctors and nurses, other helpers and helping others.

They will find out about service-led roles within the community, as well as identifying ways in which they can help those in need by sharing their time and resources.



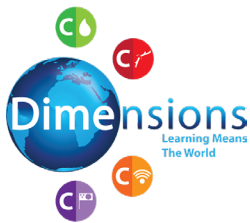
"Let's Play!" Pupils will learn about all kinds of toys and games under the headings:- favourite toys, cuddly toys, toys that move, construction toys, toy story and games.

They will discover more about a range of toys and how they are constructed and operate, their purpose and, most importantly, why they should share toys and games with each other.



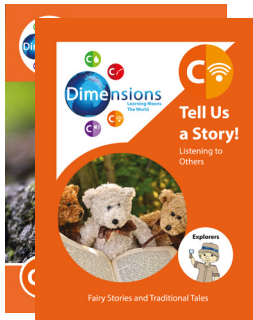
"Happy to Be Me!" Pupils will learn more about themselves under the headings:- who am I?, eyes and ears, fingers, toes, mouths and noses, similarities and differences, who's in my family? And belonging.

They will discover what makes them unique, while at the same time learning to appreciate how they are connected to others, not only by the way they look, but also through shared experiences. They will learn about their senses with a particular focus on listening and how we communicate.



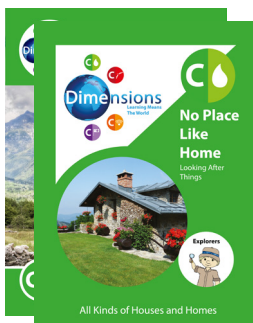
'Learning Means The World' Theme Guide Explorer Themes

Explorers 1 / 2



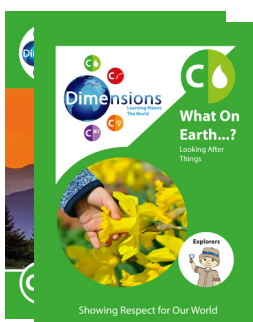
"Tell Us a Story" Pupils will listen to familiar stories and develop their knowledge of traditional tales under the headings:- jack and the beanstalk, the gingerbread man, snow white, Cinderella and learning to listen.

They will extend literacy skills, in particular speaking and listening, as well as broadening their repertoire of stories.



"No Place Like Home" Pupils will learn about places that provide shelter for different people and animals under the headings:- my house, different kinds of houses, pet's homes, wild animals' homes, unusual homes and tents, caves and dens.

They will understand why shelter is necessary for humans and animals and learn about the wide variety of homes they live in. They will also gain an appreciation of why we need to look after our homes and possessions.



"What On Earth...?" Pupils will learn about the diversity found within our world, under the headings:-

living things, pretty things, big things, small things, old things and new things.

They will gain an appreciation of the wonder of living in a world, rich in variety and form. This should lead to an understanding of the need to look after things, however seemingly small and insignificant.

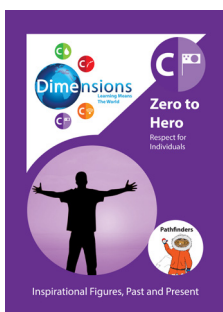


'Learning Means The World' Theme Guide Pathfinder Themes

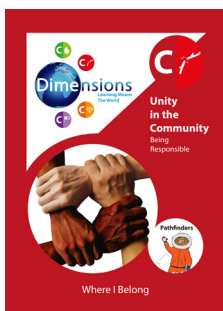
Pathfinders 1 / 2



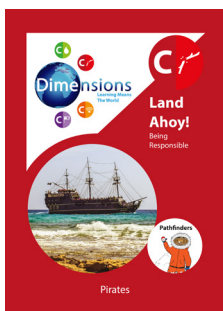
"Come Fly With Me! Arctic Circle" is a thematic unit based on the Arctic region and surroundings, with a key focus on geography. Pupils will learn about the location, weather and climate in the Arctic, as well as the wildlife that lives there. Inuit people, their traditions and customs, will also be studied.



"Zero to Hero" is a thematic unit about heroes and heroines, both past and present, who have overcome major challenges in life and become inspirational figures. There is a key subject focus on history.



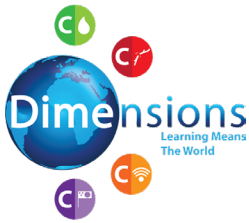
"Unity in the Community" is a thematic unit about the area you live in, with a geography focus. Pupils will develop their geographical skills, local knowledge and understanding through learning about their school, the features of its grounds, the surrounding area and how it has changed over time. They will be taught all about the importance of acting responsibly within both the school and the wider community.



"Land Ahoy!" is a thematic unit, with a subject focus on science and geography. The science element is based around sound, speed and motion and begins by exploring how things move, linking with a pirate's journey around the continents and oceans. The unit concludes with an introduction to sound, focusing on sources of sound and the relationship between distance and volume. Threaded through is the theme of behaving responsibly, with consideration for others.

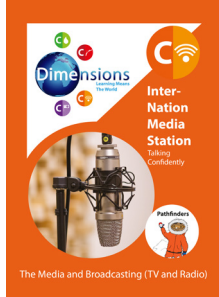


"Happily Ever After" is a thematic unit, based around fairy tales, with a key focus on literacy and drama. It is designed to enable pupils to develop a love of stories, as well as providing a vehicle for communication through creative arts work. Stories should be chosen carefully, in consultation with previous year groups, to avoid duplication as far as possible. However, the three suggested in this unit (The Ugly Duckling, Red Riding Hood and Cinderella) work well.

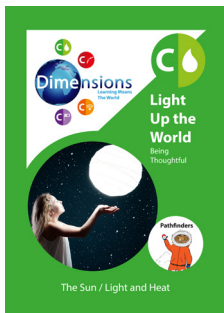


'Learning Means The World' Theme Guide Pathfinder Themes

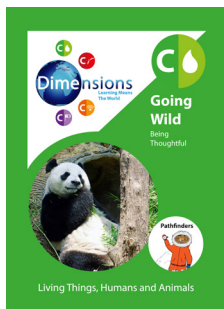
Pathfinders 1 / 2



"Inter-Nation Media Station" is a thematic unit all about media and broadcasting. There is a key subject focus on history, through which pupils will learn about early methods of communication, leading to the invention of both the television and radio. Pupils will develop confidence in oracy, through opportunities to work on their own broadcasts.



"Light Up the World" is a thematic unit based around the sun and other sources of light, with a science focus. Pupils will look at solar power and how to save electricity, as well as learning about sun safety and the importance of protecting both the skin and eyes. They will also learn about how shadows are formed when solid objects block light. Nocturnal animals will also be introduced in this unit.

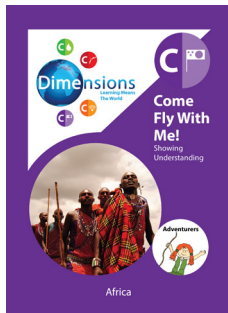


"Going Wild" is a thematic unit based around humans and animals, with a science focus. Pupils will look at humans and animals, beginning with characteristics of living and non-living things through to classifying birds, fish, amphibians, reptiles and mammals. There will be a particular focus on looking after animals and pupils will learn about extinction, wildlife conservation, habitat destruction and endangered species.

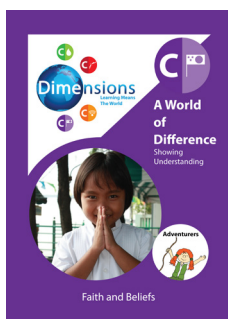


'Learning Means The World' Theme Guide Adventurer Themes

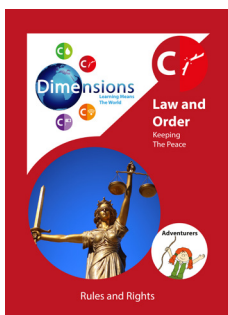
Adventurers 1 / 2



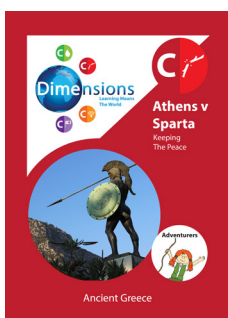
"Come Fly With Me! Africa" is a thematic unit based around the continent of Africa, with a key focus on geography and history. Pupils will be learning about the location of Africa and identifying its largest countries. Alongside this geography element, they will study the Benin era. They will also learn about African culture, in particular typical African food and folk tales.



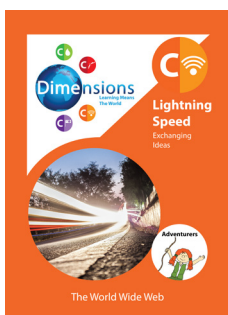
"A World of Difference" is a thematic unit based around world religions. It looks at the following faiths:- Buddhism, Christianity, Hinduism, Islam and Judaism, examining aspects such as places of worship, holy books, core beliefs and important festivals.



"Law and Order" is a thematic unit, based on the concept of justice, with a key focus on citizenship. Pupils will look at the importance of leadership and the meaning of democracy and its origins, before moving on to how this applies practically in communities, both school-wide, locally and nationally. It finishes by recognising issues of justice, rights and responsibilities in their own setting and the wider world.



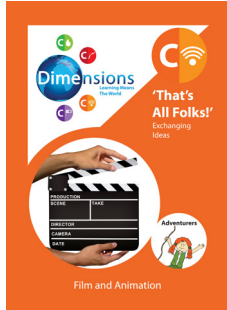
"Athens v Sparta" is a thematic unit based on Ancient Greece, with a key focus on history. Learning is centred on how the Greeks used to live, including the key aspect of mythology, especially highlighting the conflicts that characterized Ancient Greece.



"Lightning Speed" is a thematic unit based around the history and development of the internet and World Wide Web, with a focus on computing. It primarily looks at how computers communicate, the importance of networks, how email works and how the internet enables collaboration.

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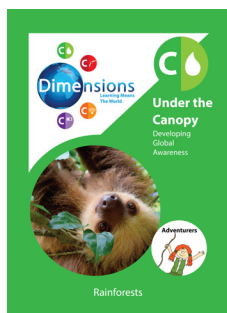
Adventurers 1 / 2



"That's All Folks!" is a thematic unit based around the history and development of animation and cartoons. It primarily takes in elements of history, art and computing / ICT and starts with learning about the beginnings of animation, looking at zoetropes and flip books, before moving on to the dawn of the Disney age. Then, the process of animation is explored further, with an opportunity for pupils to exchange their own design ideas and create their own animated films.



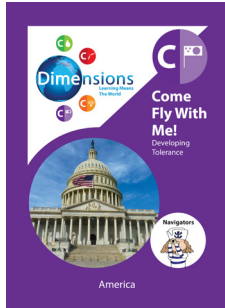
"Picture Our Planet" is a thematic unit, with a key focus on geography. Learning is centred around three contrasting localities:- Brazil, Scotland and Fiji, and includes key facts, physical and human features, traditions and customs and an insight into how each country is tackling particular conservation issues. Pupils will have the opportunity to look at a range of sources and evidence and make comparisons.



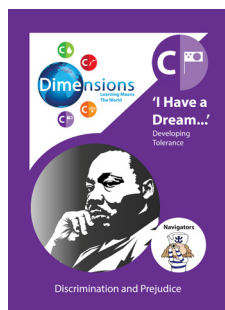
"Under the Canopy" is a thematic unit, based on the rainforest with a key focus on geography and history. Pupils are commissioned to work for a fictitious organisation called 'Roots' in helping two adopted children find out about their Mexican / Mayan heritage. Through this project, they will learn about the importance of the rainforest.

'Learning Means The World' Theme Guide Navigator Themes

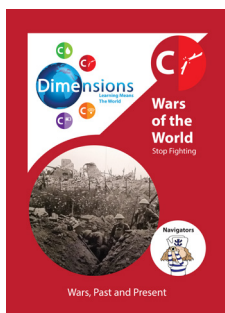
Navigators 1 / 2



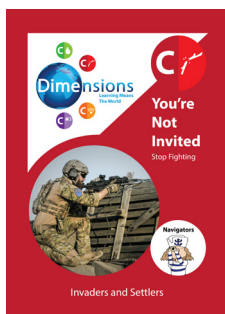
"Come Fly With Me! America" is a thematic unit, based on North and Central America, with a key focus on geography and history. It begins with the location of countries and states before learning about the discovery of America and the Native American people. Pupils will also study weather and climate, as well as human and physical features. The unit ends with an explanation of 'The American Dream', whilst examining the values of freedom and tolerance.



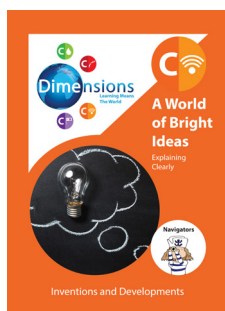
"I Have a Dream..." is a thematic unit, based on issues of discrimination, particularly apartheid and anti-semitism, with a key subject focus on history. Pupils will learn about the factors that contribute towards discrimination and why different groups have been stereotyped and, as a result, persecuted and badly treated.



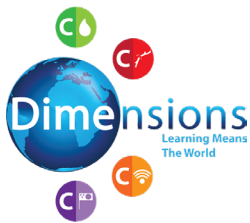
"Wars of the World" is a thematic unit, based on conflicts past and present, with a key focus on history and geography. Pupils will learn about the root causes of war and have an understanding of its impact, focusing on the two World Wars in particular. They will also learn about civil wars and look at examples, before focusing on present day warfare. Pacifism and the importance of peace will also form part of the theme.



"You're Not Invited" is a thematic unit, based around invaders with a key focus on history. It begins by looking at the concept of invasion, before focusing especially on the Romans, learning about important Roman figures and their reasons for invading other countries. Pupils will also learn about sources of evidence and their reliability.



"A World of Bright Ideas!" is a thematic unit which focuses on the creative process of invention and design, with a leaning towards history and design technology. Pupils will look at important inventions over time, before moving on to learning about more current issues such as patenting and copyright. They will have the opportunity to actively engage in the design and make process, looking at the steps involved from generating a concept to producing a commercially viable product.

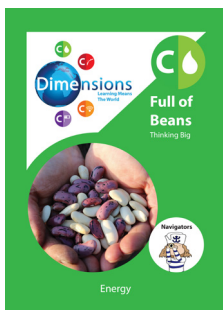


'Learning Means The World' Theme Guide Navigator Themes

Navigators 1 / 2



"Mission Control" is a thematic unit based around the subject of Earth and beyond, with a key focus on science and history. Pupils learn about the Earth, Sun and Moon and their relationship to each other, before finding out more about space exploration and communication.



"Full of Beans" is a thematic unit, with a key focus on geography. It begins with pupils learning about different types of beans, how and where beans are grown and their nutritional value. They go on to look at beans as a source of energy, before moving on to learn about energy sources generally, both renewable and non-renewable. A business enterprise element enables pupils to create and sell bean smoothies.



"Global Warning" is a thematic unit, which is geography-focused with sustainability and eco literacy at its heart. This project-based theme involves pupils applying their learning about the global environmental issues of waste and pollution by creating a board game, which is both educational and fun. The pupils will work in groups to research, design and produce their board game, after which they will present and demonstrate it to the class.

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