

Improving Your Reading Skills with...

# Rex Retriever



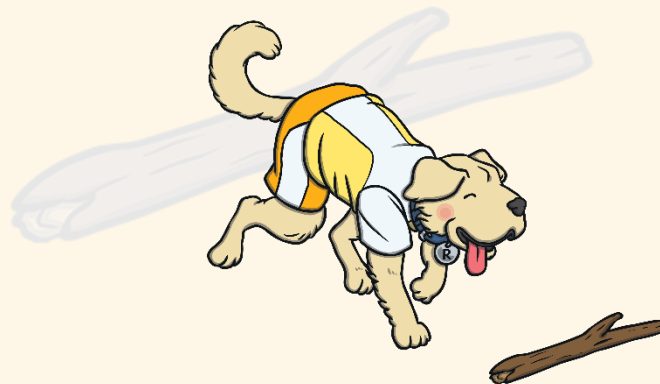
# What Does **Rex Retriever** Do?

Rex Retriever helps with content domain **1b**:

Identify/explain key aspects of fiction and non-fiction texts, such as characters, events, titles and information.

This means that he is there to help you to answer questions by **finding the answer in the text**.

Rex might ask you what the characters are called, what they do, what the name of the chapter is or what you have learned about a particular topic.





## What Might **Rex Retriever** Ask?

Rex Retriever might ask questions like these:

- Where is the story set?
- Who is the main character in the story?
- How is the dilemma resolved?
- Tell me one fact you have found out in this text about...
- Where in this book could I look if I wanted to know more about...?
- Which part of the story did you like the most? Why

# Minibeasts

Minibeasts are animals which can be found in many different environments. They are able to live in water, in the soil and in small cracks and openings. In the United Kingdom, there are well over 30,000 different kind of minibeast, such as stag beetles, caterpillars and snails. They can look very different. Some minibeasts, like butterflies, are able to fly, whereas others, like earthworms, move underground. There are species like caterpillars and millipedes that have longer bodies and a large number of legs, and live mostly on leaves.



## In the Garden

Gardens hold many different species of minibeast. Bees are often found around flowers in gardens and local parks. They are important as they collect pollen to make honey and by moving from flower to flower, they help more flowers grow. If a garden has a hedge around it, you might be able to find a stag beetle underneath. These are the largest insects in Britain, and can grow up to 7cm long. They have a hard outer shell and very large jaws that look like the antlers on a deer's head. Not all beetles are this big. Most of the beetles that make a home in gardens are very small. Most beetles like to live in old, rotting leaves or bark so that they are not easily seen.

## In Ponds and Rivers

Other habitats where minibeasts can be found in great quantities and variety are in ponds and rivers. There are creatures that live in or near water that are like the animals found in gardens. Leeches are very similar to slugs. They have soft, stretchy bodies but live their lives in swamps and rivers. Lots of minibeasts start as larvae (babies) in water and when they are fully-grown, they are able to fly or live on land. Insects like dragonflies and mayflies grow from larva into large, four-winged insects, which live on the reeds and grasses that surround the water.

## Staying Alive

Most minibeasts do not have a skeleton like humans; they have a shell on the outside of their bodies to protect them. However, some minibeasts' bodies are only soft. These animals often try to hide or blend in with the plants around them so that they are not seen. The bodies of slugs are completely soft and birds and other predators can easily eat them. Snails carry a hard shell on their backs and are able to pull back into this shell if they feel threatened. Though it is not very popular in the UK, snails are eaten by people in some countries in the world.

# Questions about Minibeasts

Answer in full sentences.

1. How many different species of minibeast are found in the United Kingdom?

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2. Name two features of millipedes.

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3. How did stag beetles get their name?

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4. How are the skeletons of most minibeasts different from humans?

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5. What is a habitat?

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6. What name is given to baby insects?

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7. How do snails react if they are scared?

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8. Which minibeasts have you spotted before? Where did you see them?

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# Questions about Minibeasts

## Answers

1. How many different species of minibeast are found in the United Kingdom?

**There are over 30,000 different species in the United Kingdom.**

2. Name two features of millipedes.

**Millipedes have long bodies and many legs.**

3. How did stag beetles get their name?

**Stage beetles got their name as they have long jaws like the antlers of a deer.**

4. How are the skeletons of most minibeasts different from humans?

**Humans have a skeleton on the inside of their bodies; insects have a shell on the outside.**

5. What is a habitat?

**A habitat is where an insect / minibeast / other animal lives.**

6. What name is given to baby insects?

**Baby insects are known as larvae.**

7. How do snails react if they are scared?

**If a snail is scared, it hides back into its shell.**

8. Which minibeasts have you spotted before? Where did you see them?

**Children to give an appropriate answer referring to minibeasts.**



# Features of Non-Fiction Texts

### Glossary

A glossary is like a dictionary, which explains what key words from the text mean.



### Index Page

The index is usually at the back of the book. It lists important words from the book in alphabetical order.



### Captions

A caption is a phrase or sentence which explains what is shown or happening in a picture.

### Labels

Labels are words which help you to identify a picture and its parts.



### Contents Page

A contents page is at the front of a book. It tells you what is in the book in order, listing the titles of the chapters or sections.

### Photographs

These are pictures throughout the text to show you what things look like.



### Sub-headings

Sub-headings are mini titles throughout a text which tell you what that specific section is about. They are usually bold or bigger than the rest of the writing.

### Headings

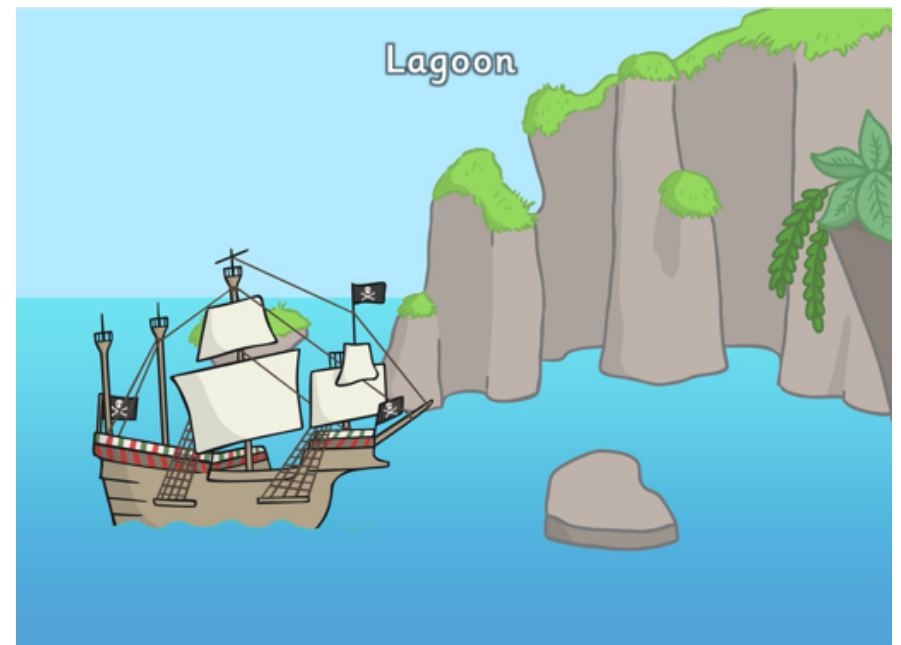
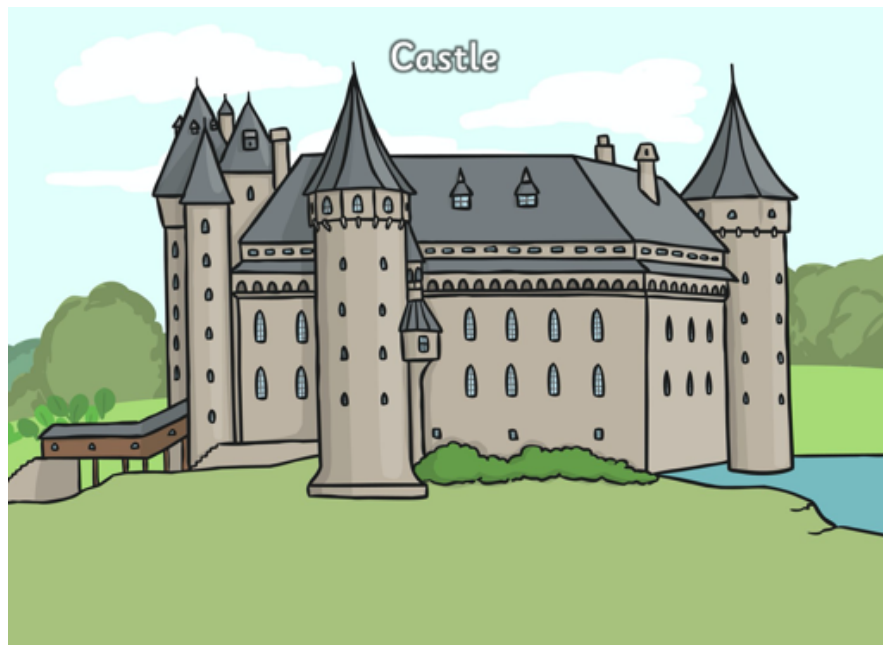
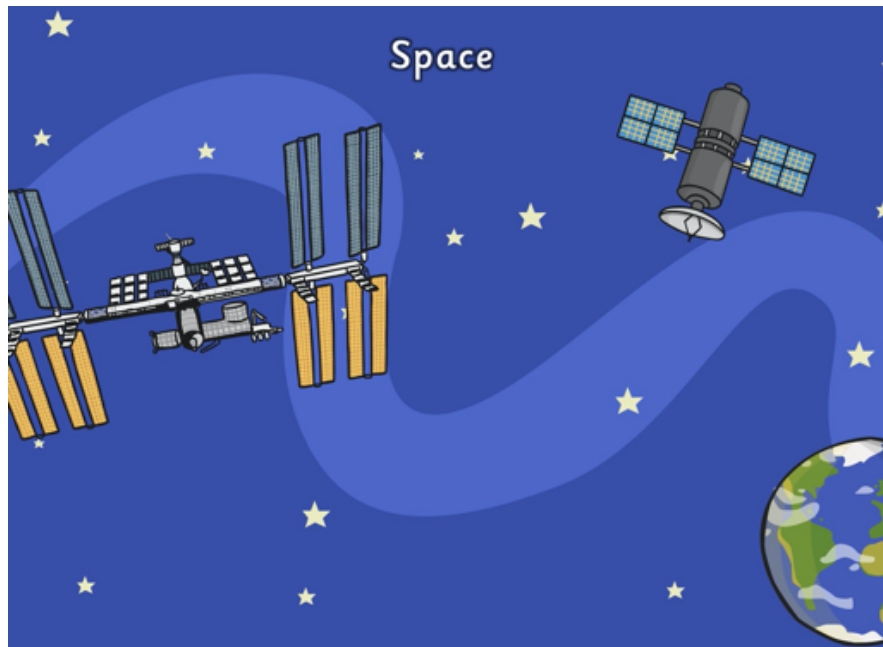
A heading is the main title of the text, which tells you what the text as a whole will be about.

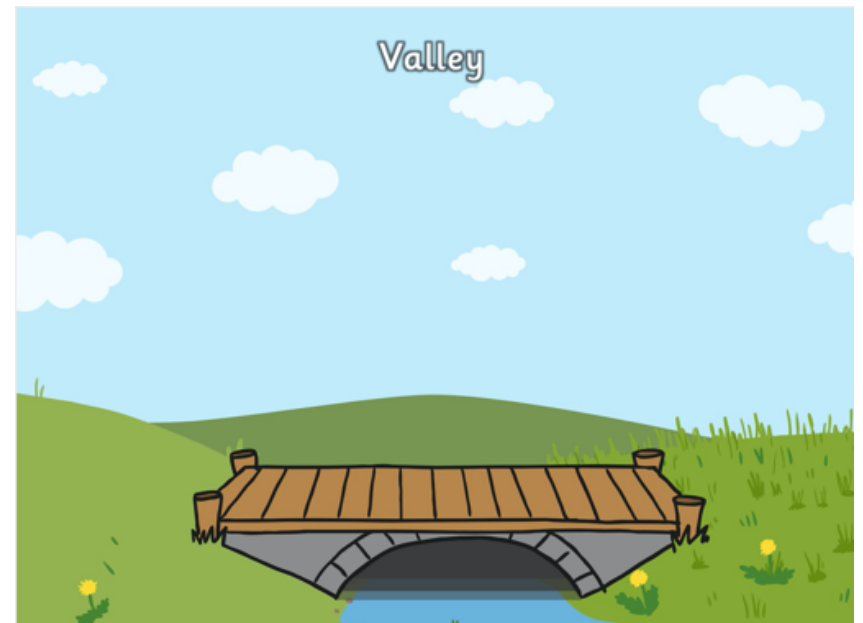


# Story Settings









Beach



Mountain



Port



Village





# Setting Description Senses Word Mat

## Sights

ancient  
angular  
bright  
bustling  
cluttered  
crowded  
dazzling  
disappointing  
dusty  
empty  
enormous  
fashionable  
glistening  
gloomy  
grim  
hectic  
impressive  
luxurious  
miniscule  
misshapen  
rounded  
spotless  
unkempt  
wonderful

## Sounds

banging  
buzzing  
discordant  
gurgling  
grating  
howling  
loud  
low-level  
melodic  
muttering  
noisy  
quiet  
raucous  
ringing  
rustling  
scratching  
screeching  
scuffling  
silent  
tapping  
thumping  
tuneful  
wailing  
whispering

## Smells

clean	homely
clinical	mouth-watering
damp	perfumed
delicious	pleasant
disgusting	pungent
dusty	refreshing
earthy	sickening
exotic	smoky
familiar	tangy
floral	tempting
fresh	unfamiliar
fruity	unusual

## Sensations

bumpy  
cool  
damp  
forceful  
freezing  
gentle  
hard  
itchy  
jagged  
loose  
pleasant  
rough  
slippery  
smooth  
soaking  
soft  
sticky  
stifling  
sweltering  
tickly  
tight  
uncomfortable  
unpleasant  
wobbly

## Feelings

amazed  
anxious  
ashamed  
calm  
confident  
curious  
disappointed  
eager  
excited  
exhilarated  
furious  
impressed  
lazy  
lonely  
miserable  
nauseated  
nervous  
overawed  
overjoyed  
proud  
reluctant  
serene  
terrified  
underwhelmed

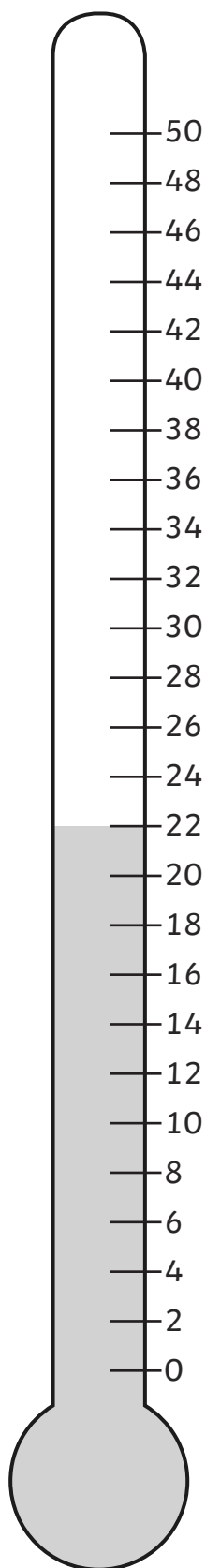


- say what can be seen?
- say what can be heard?
- include details about the weather?
- include details about the time of day?
- use adjectives (describing words) to describe each noun?

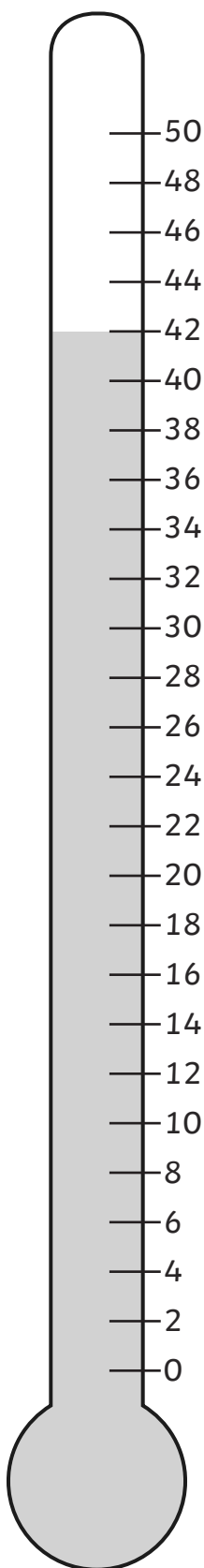
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# Reading Thermometers

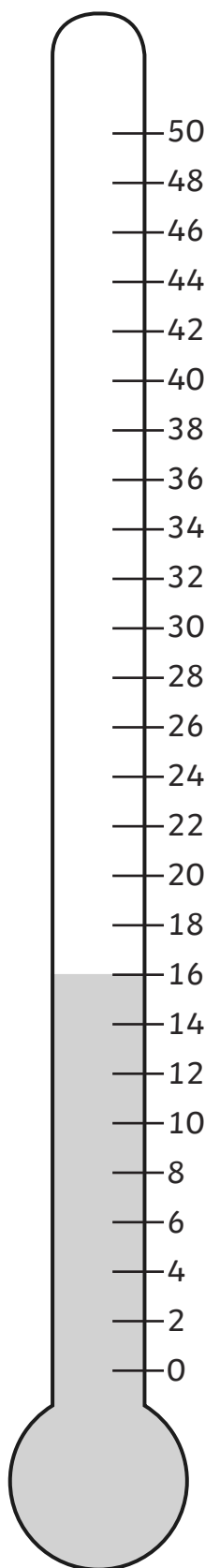
Write the correct temperatures underneath each thermometer.



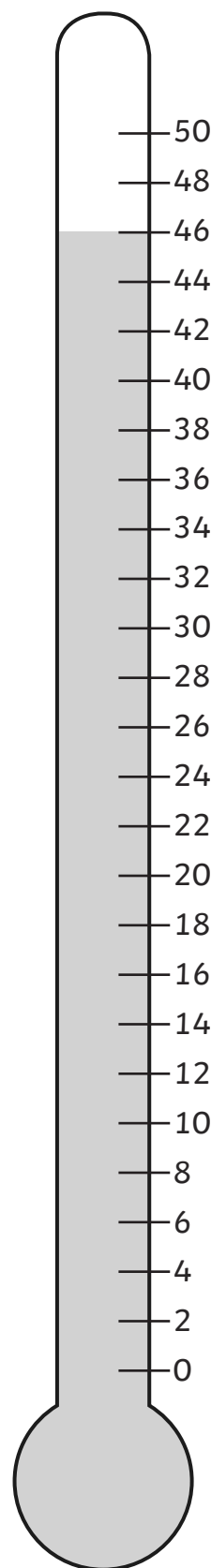
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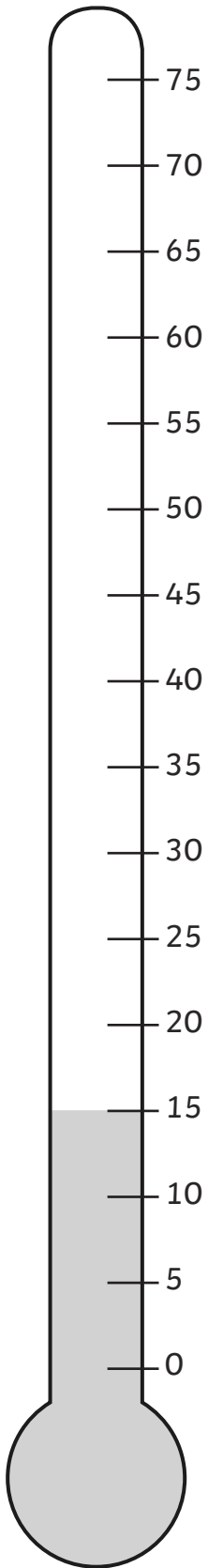


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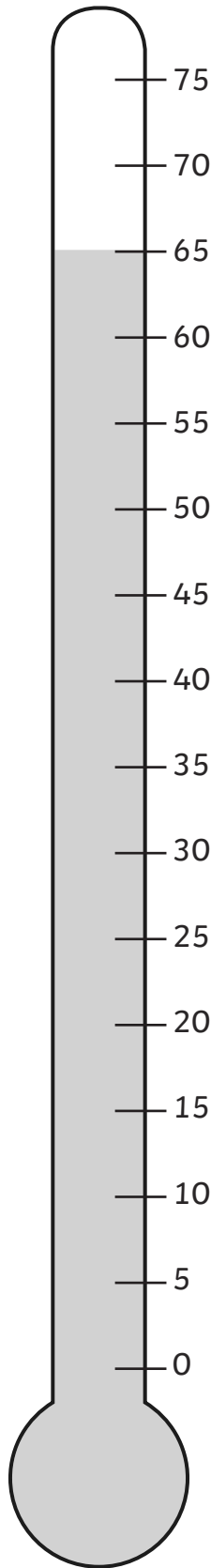


# Reading Thermometers

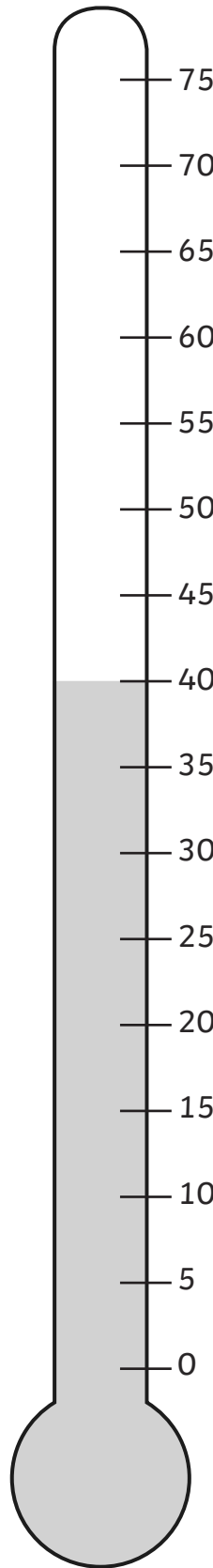
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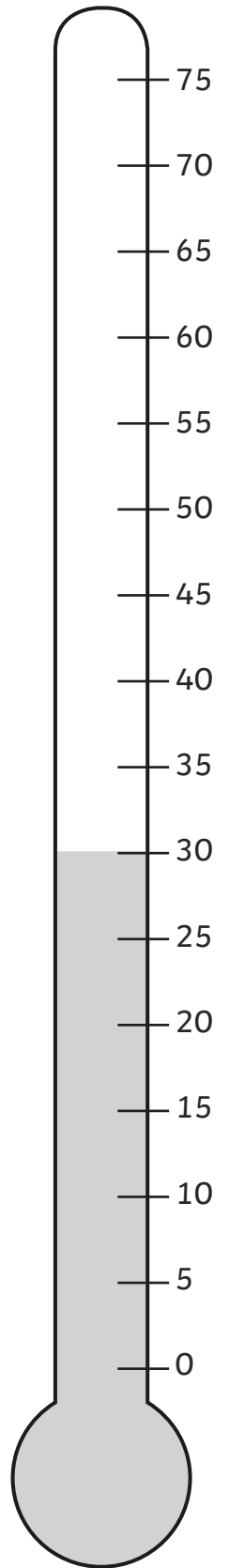
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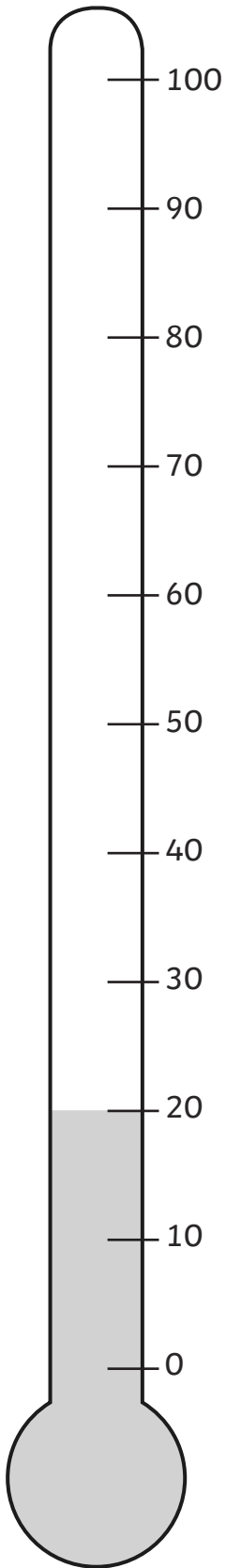
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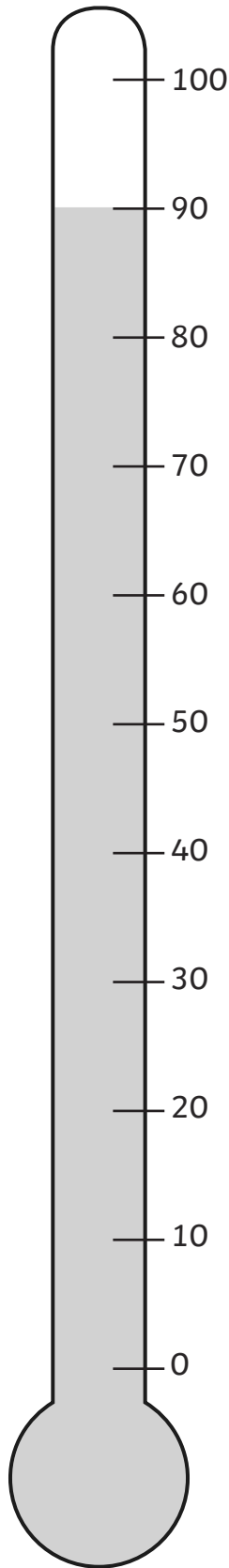
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# Reading Thermometers

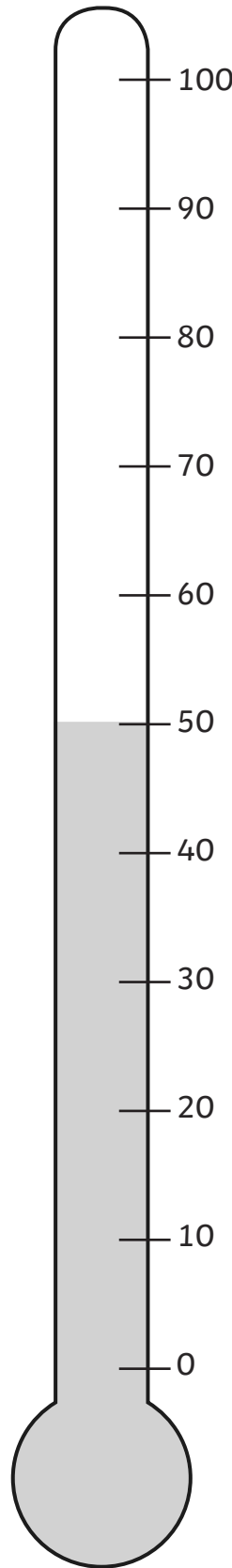
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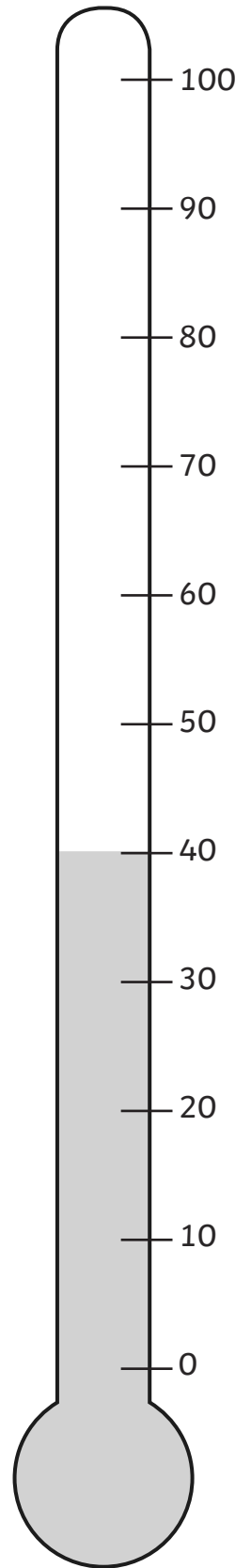
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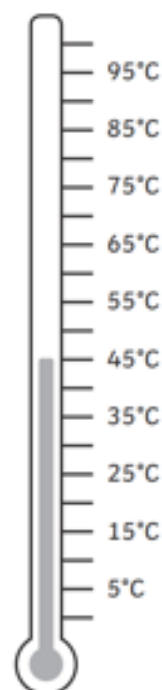
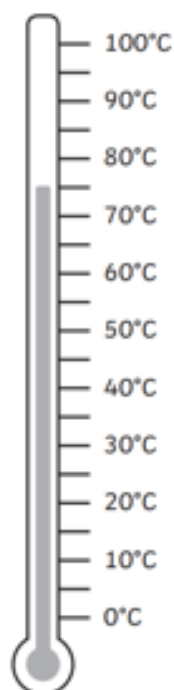
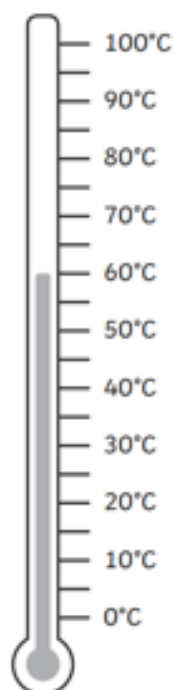
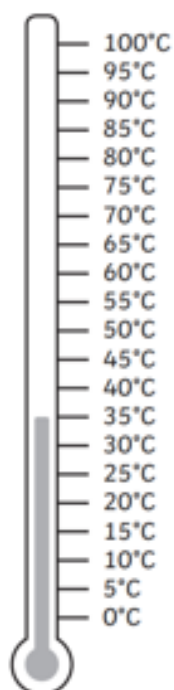
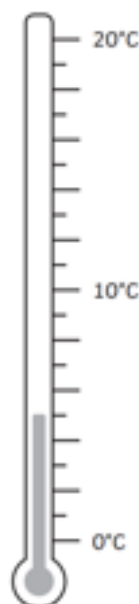
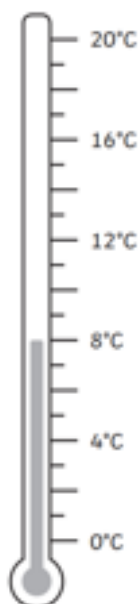
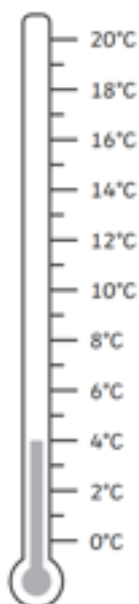
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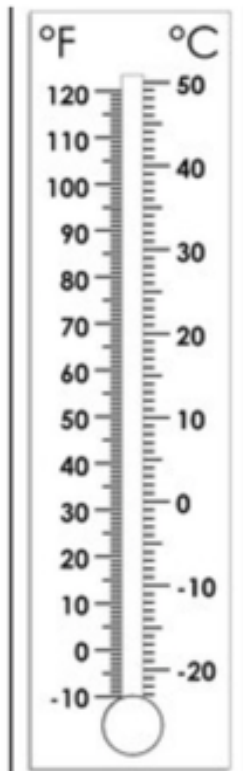
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# Reading Scales with Unmarked Scales

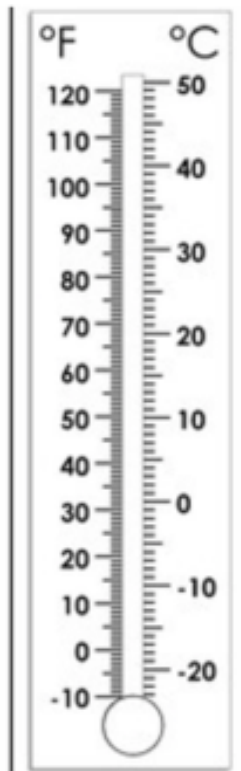
Write the temperature shown on each thermometer.



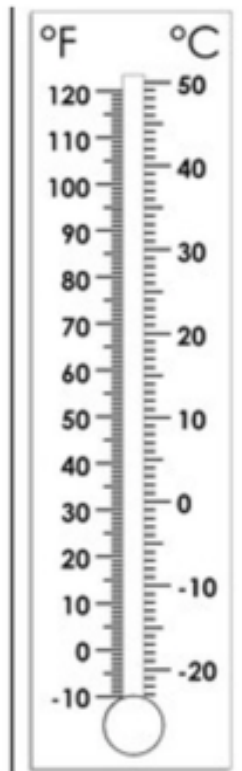
MATHS RESOURCE 3



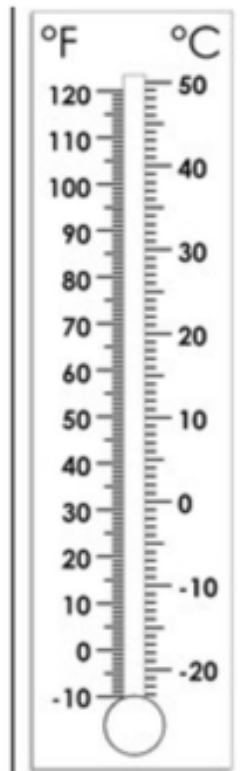
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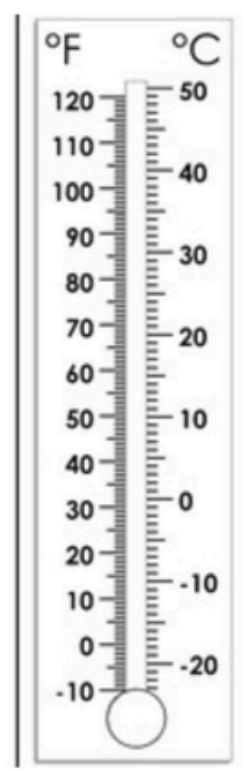
Tuesday \_\_\_\_\_



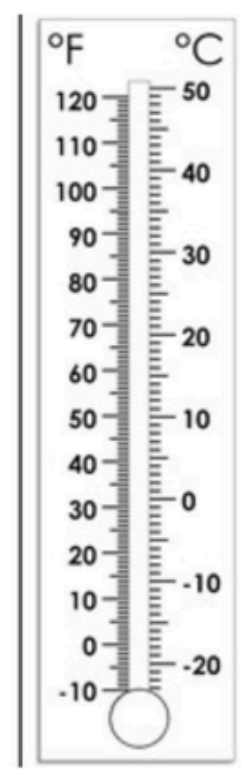
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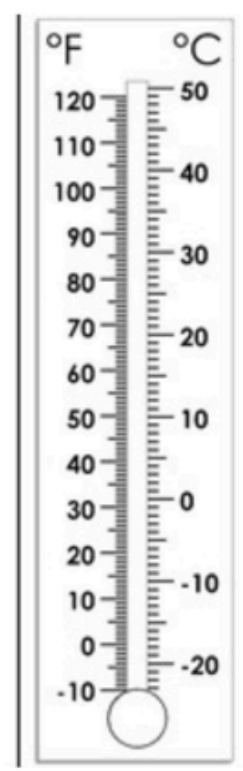
Thursday \_\_\_\_\_



Friday \_\_\_\_\_



Saturday \_\_\_\_\_



Sunday \_\_\_\_\_

Please make sure that you print this resource at 100% so that all measurements are correct.

To do this, follow the relevant steps below.

### Adobe Reader or Adobe Acrobat

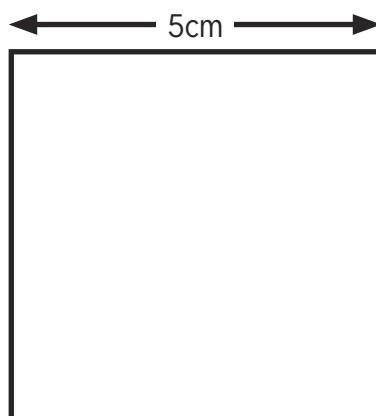
- Adobe Reader is a free PDF viewer, from Adobe. To install a copy of Adobe Reader, go to <https://get.adobe.com/uk/reader/>.
- Once Adobe Reader is installed, open your PDF.
- Go to File>Print.
- Under 'Page Sizing & Handling', select 'Size'.
- From here, make sure that 'Actual Size' is selected.
- Print this page as a test, making sure that the shape below is the correct size once printed.
- If the test print is correct, print your PDF.

### Foxit Reader

- Go to File>Print.
- Set the 'Scaling' to 'None'.
- Print this page as a test, making sure that the shape below is the correct size once printed.
- If the test print is correct, print your PDF.

### Web Browser

- If printing from a web browser, such as Chrome, Firefox or Microsoft Edge make sure that your printer is set to print at 100%, either by unticking 'Fit to Page' or selecting 'Actual Size'.
- Print this page as a test, making sure that the shape below is the correct size once printed.
- If the test print is correct, print your PDF.





# Estimating and Measuring

I can estimate and measure length in centimetres.



- 1) Choose six objects from around the room. Estimate how long you think the object is in centimetres, then use a ruler to measure it.

Object	Estimate (cm)	Measurement (cm)

- 2) Use your ruler to measure these lines:

a)

b)

c)

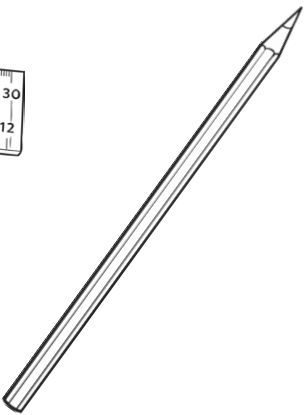
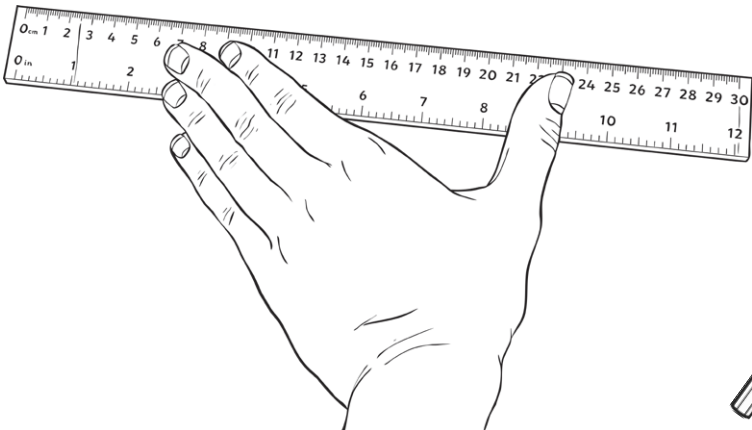
d)

cm

cm

cm

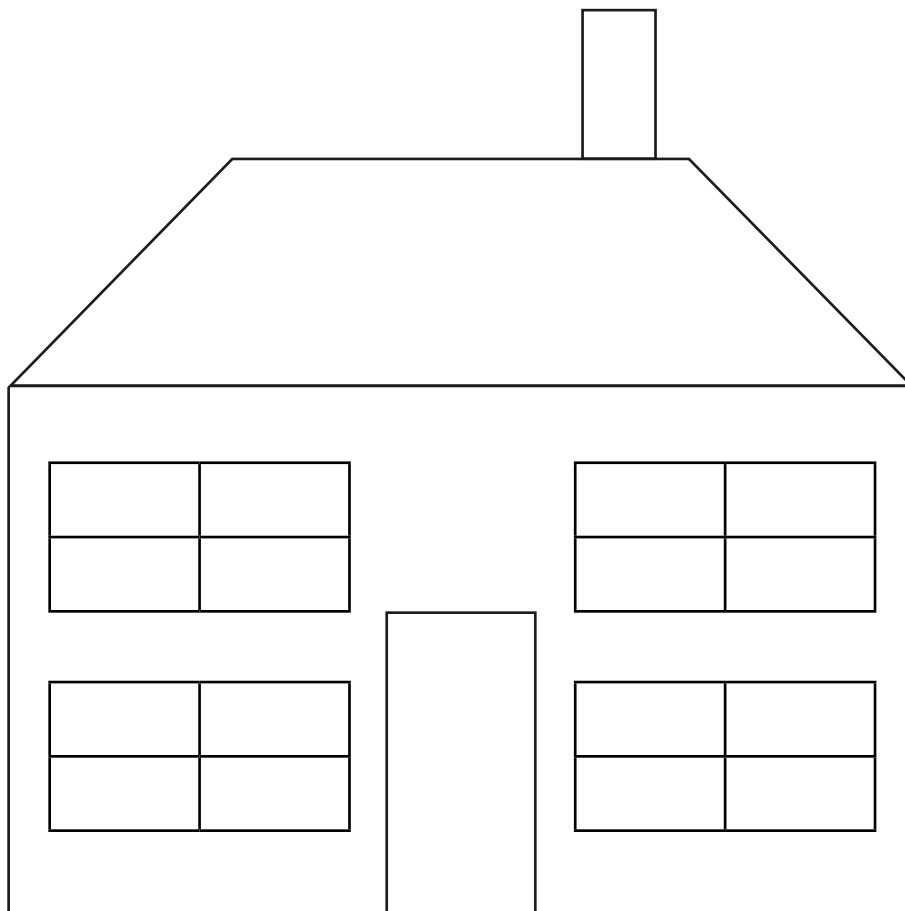
cm







2) Use your ruler to find these measurements:



a) The height of the house to the top of the roof, not including the chimney.

\_\_\_\_\_

b) The width of the door.

\_\_\_\_\_

c) The height of the window.

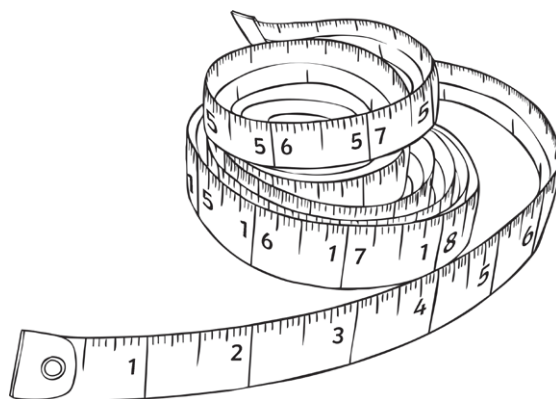
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d) The width of the house.

\_\_\_\_\_

e) The width of the chimney.

\_\_\_\_\_





# Estimating and Measuring **Answers**

I can estimate and measure length in centimetres.



- 1) Choose 6 objects around the room. First of all estimate (in centimetres) how long you think each object is, then measure it in centimetres.

Answers dependent upon the objects chosen. Children can mark each other's items.

- 2) Use your ruler to measure these lines:

- a) **7cm**
- b) **10cm**
- c) **4cm**
- d) **12cm**

- 3) Use your ruler to find these measurements:

- a) The height of the house to the top of the roof, not including the chimney.  
**10cm**
- b) The width of the door?  
**2cm**
- c) The height of the window?  
**2cm**
- d) The width of the house?  
**12cm**
- e) The width of the chimney?  
**1cm**

## What is a pilgrimage?

A pilgrimage is a journey to a religious place. It is different to going on holiday.

People make the journey for different reasons, perhaps because they want to give thanks to God, ask for help or to say sorry and ask for forgiveness. The people who go on these special journeys are called 'pilgrims'.

Places of pilgrimage are special because of something that happened there.

## Special Places

Muslims live by the Five Pillars of Islam which are rules to live a good Muslim life. One of these rules is going on a pilgrimage to Makkah, or Mecca, in Saudi Arabia.



## Special Places

This pilgrimage is called Hajj and all Muslims are expected to make this special journey at least once in life as long as they can afford to, and are fit and well. Mecca is where Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him) was born, making it a very special place.

Before reaching Mecca, all pilgrims must wash and put on special clothes. Here is a picture of travelling pilgrims wearing their special clothes.



## Special Places

In Mecca there is a huge mosque called Grand Mosque.



Inside the mosque is a stone building covered in black cloth which is seen as the holiest place in the world for Muslims. This building is called the Kaaba and is said to have been built by a very special man called Prophet Abraham. Muslim face the Kaaba when praying, no matter where they are in the world. During Hajj, a pilgrim will walk around it seven times.



Only Muslims are allowed to enter the Grand Mosque.

## Topic resource 2: Healthy eating



### Carbohydrates



### Fruit and Vegetables



## Beans, Pulses, Fish, Meat and Other Proteins



## Water



Water, lower fat milk, sugar-free drinks including tea and coffee all count.

Limit fruit juice and/or smoothies to a total of 150ml a day.

## Dairy and Alternatives

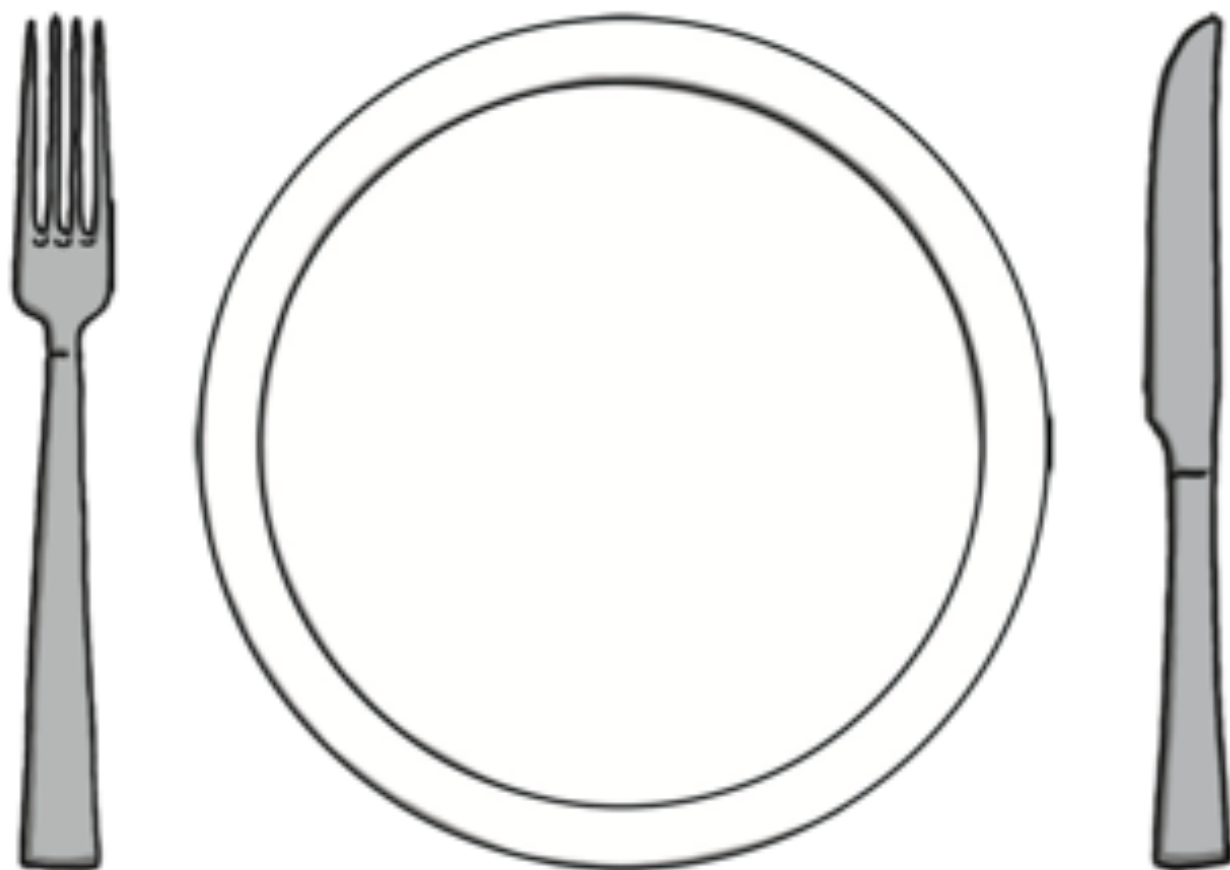


## Oil and Spreads





## Healthy Eating Meal Activity



## Exercise Is Good for Me

Exercise is extremely important for you because it keeps your body healthy.

Another important reason exercise is important is because it makes you feel great! The more active you are, the more energy you will have. This energy will make you feel fantastic!



## Exercise Is Good for My Heart

Exercise is also very important for the organs inside your body.

Your heart becomes very strong when you are active and exercise.

Your heart is a muscle. This means that the more active you are, the stronger your heart gets.



## Exercise Is Good for My Muscles

Exercise is also very important for the rest of the muscles in your body. There are over 650 muscles in your body!

With every exercise you do, each of your muscles get stronger.



### Keeping Clean



Germs are everywhere! They are on the inside and outside of our bodies, and on everything we touch.

Most of these germs are harmless, but some of them can make us ill.

When you feel poorly, it's likely that a germ is to blame.

Because of this, it's very important for humans to keep clean. Sometimes we call this 'hygiene'.

What things do humans do to keep themselves clean?







Here are some of the things that all humans should do to keep clean. Did you think of any others? Why is it important that we do these things to keep clean?



Having a bath



Washing our face



Washing our hair



Having a shower



Brushing our teeth



Cutting our nails



Wearing clean clothes

We wash our bodies, hair and faces to stop them looking and smelling dirty.



If we do not cut our nails, dirt and germs collect underneath them. This doesn't look very nice! If these germs get in our mouths, they can make us ill.



If we do not clean our teeth, germs in our mouth can cause cavities. These are holes in our teeth, that can be very painful.

Brushing our teeth also makes our mouths feel and smell fresh and clean.

We must brush our teeth with toothpaste every morning and every night.



If we don't change our clothes, they start to look dirty and will smell bad.

Underwear and socks are worn close to the body and should be changed every day.

Some clothes, like jumpers and cardigans, can be worn again as long as they look and smell clean.







Hand washing is very important in keeping clean and well.

Because we use our hands for touching, they pick up LOTS of germs.

If we don't keep our hands clean, then we spread these germs around.

The germs from our hands can end up inside our bodies and make us ill.

Sometimes we give the germs to someone else, and then they can get ill too!

When do we need to wash our hands?







# Keeping Clean

Draw four things that you do to keep yourself clean.

Explain why humans need to keep clean. Use the words in the word bank to help you.

feel	smell	happy	germs	Word Bank:		look	healthy	decay
hands	face	dirty	ill	teeth	wash	brush	clean	body