



MINECRAFT

EDUCATION EDITION

CURRICULUM ALIGNMENT GUIDE

NATIONAL CURRICULUM IN ENGLAND

ENGLISH PROGRAMMES OF STUDY (KEY STAGE 2)

Introduction

Minecraft: Education Edition is an open-world game that promotes creativity, collaboration, and problem-solving in an immersive environment where the only limit is your imagination. As a game-based learning platform, Minecraft offers educators a transformative way to engage students and ignite their passion for learning. Teachers from around the world are using Minecraft in their classroom to successfully:

- Increase Student Engagement,
- Facilitate Classroom Collaboration
- Provide opportunities for Creative Exploration
- Connect Learning to Tangible Outcomes

This alignment guide will provide you with links to activities you can use in your classroom. These activities take full advantage of Minecraft's capabilities to complement and enhance classroom teaching. In this guide, you will find a list of applicable standards along with links and descriptions of Minecraft activities that focus on each objective.



For more information on using Minecraft in your classroom or to find additional education resources and training materials, visit us online.

[EDUCATION.MINECRAFT.NET](https://education.minecraft.net)



LOWER KEY STAGE 2

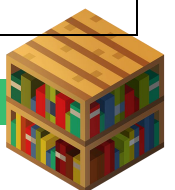
YEARS 3 AND 4 PROGRAMME OF STUDY

READING – WORD READING

ATTAINMENT TARGET	ACTIVITY
Apply their growing knowledge of root words, prefixes and suffixes (etymology and morphology) as listed in English appendix 1, both to read aloud and to understand the meaning of new words they meet.	<p>Fantastic Mr. Fox Identify how words and phrases supply meaning to a story, create your own narrative, and build an underground world in Minecraft.</p> <p>The Treasure Hunt Activity designed to help teach literacy concepts through the study of Robert Louis Stevenson's Treasure Island. Students read and respond to text from the book and use a map to find buried treasure in Minecraft.</p>

READING – COMPREHENSION

ATTAINMENT TARGET	ACTIVITY
Develop positive attitudes to reading and understanding of what they read by: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• listening to and discussing a wide range of fiction, poetry, plays, non-fiction and reference books or textbooks.• reading books that are structured in different ways and reading for a range of purposes.• using dictionaries to check the meaning of words that they have read.• increasing their familiarity with a wide range of books, including fairy stories, myths and legends, and retelling some of these orally.• identifying themes and conventions in a wide range of books.• preparing poems and play scripts to read aloud and to perform, showing understanding through intonation, tone, volume and action.• discussing words and phrases that capture the reader's interest and imagination.• recognising some different forms of poetry [for example, free verse, narrative poetry].	<p>BOOKS</p> <p>The Treasure Hunt Activity designed to help teach literacy concepts through the study of Robert Louis Stevenson's Treasure Island. Students read and respond to text from the book and use a map to find buried treasure in Minecraft.</p> <p>Fantastic Mr. Fox Identify how words and phrases supply meaning to a story, create your own narrative, and build an underground world in Minecraft.</p> <p>POETRY</p> <p>6 Room Poem Maze Inspired by From Awakening the Heart, by Georgia Heard, this 6 Room Poem supports description as you walk through a maze and write/build creatively.</p>



<p>Understand what they read, in books they can read independently, by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • checking that the text makes sense to them, discussing their understanding, and explaining the meaning of words in context. • asking questions to improve their understanding of a text. • drawing inferences such as inferring characters' feelings, thoughts and motives from their actions, and justifying inferences with evidence. • predicting what might happen from details stated and implied. • identifying main ideas drawn from more than 1 paragraph and summarising these. • identifying how language, structure, and presentation contribute to meaning. 	<p>Fantastic Mr. Fox Identify how words and phrases supply meaning to a story, create your own narrative, and build an underground world in Minecraft.</p> <p>The Man of The Island Explore Treasure Island through Minecraft. Use context to learn new vocabulary, practice making comparisons across texts, and write a passage of instructional text.</p> <p>A Home from Home (Swiss Family Robinson) Build a home on the island based on descriptions from the text of Swiss Family Robinson.</p>
<p>Retrieve and record information from non-fiction.</p>	<p>Meet and Greet! Read stories from a collection of famous people from history.</p>
<p>Participate in discussion about both books that are read to them and those they can read for themselves, taking turns and listening to what others say.</p>	<p>The Treasure Hunt Activity designed to help teach literacy concepts through the study of Robert Louis Stevenson's Treasure Island. Students read and respond to text from the book and use a map to find buried treasure in Minecraft.</p> <p>The Man of The Island Explore Treasure Island through Minecraft. Use context to learn new vocabulary, practice making comparisons across texts, and write a passage of instructional text.</p> <p>Fantastic Mr. Fox Identify how words and phrases supply meaning to a story, create your own narrative, and build an underground world in Minecraft.</p>



WRITING - COMPOSITION

ATTAINMENT TARGET	ACTIVITY
<p>Plan their writing by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">discussing writing similar to that which they are planning to write in order to understand and learn from its structure, vocabulary and grammar.discussing and recording ideas.	<p>Building A Story Setting</p> <p>In this lesson, students identify a setting and then create a space in Minecraft where a story can take place.</p> <p>Fairy Tale Reimagined</p>
<p>Draft and write by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">composing and rehearsing sentences orally (including dialogue), progressively building a varied and rich vocabulary and an increasing range of sentence structures English appendix 2.organising paragraphs around a theme.in narratives, creating settings, characters and plot.in non-narrative material, using simple organisational devices [for example, headings and sub-headings].	<p>This lesson is designed to provide an opportunity to mix world building with storytelling while using many of the Minecraft: Education Edition tools.</p> <p>Setting In Narrative Writing</p> <p>Inspired by a desert biome with unexpected surprises, players explore the role of setting in narrative writing.</p> <p>Shipwreck Narrative</p>
<p>Evaluate and edit by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">assessing the effectiveness of their own and others' writing and suggesting improvements.proposing changes to grammar and vocabulary to improve consistency, including the accurate use of pronouns in sentences.	<p>Imagine a world where pirates roamed the seven seas and write a narrative about a mysterious shipwreck.</p> <p>The Man of The Island</p> <p>Explore Treasure Island through Minecraft. Use context to learn new vocabulary, practice making comparisons across texts, and write a passage of instructional text.</p> <p>Time Machine</p> <p>Students re-imagine a space in their community, school, or home and explore what the space may look like 100 years in the future and what it might have looked like 100 in the past.</p>



WRITING - VOCABULARY, GRAMMAR AND PUNCTUATION

ATTAINMENT TARGET	ACTIVITY
<p>Develop their understanding of the concepts set out in English appendix 2 by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• extending the range of sentences with more than one clause by using a wider range of conjunctions, including: when, if, because, although.• using the present perfect form of verbs in contrast to the past tense.• choosing nouns or pronouns appropriately for clarity and cohesion and to avoid repetition.• using conjunctions, adverbs and prepositions to express time and cause.• using fronted adverbials.• learning the grammar for years 3 and 4 in [English appendix 2].	<p>Instructional Writing Task</p> <p>In this lesson, students are challenged to write down a set of step-by-step instructions (using imperative verbs and time connectives) for others to follow to build a simple structure in Minecraft.</p>



UPPER KEY STAGE 2

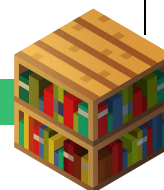
YEARS 5 AND 6 PROGRAMME OF STUDY

READING – WORD READING

ATTAINMENT TARGET	ACTIVITY
Apply their growing knowledge of root words, prefixes and suffixes (etymology and morphology) as listed in English Appendix 1 , both to read aloud and to understand the meaning of new words they meet.	<p>Fantastic Mr. Fox Identify how words and phrases supply meaning to a story, create your own narrative, and build an underground world in Minecraft.</p> <p>The Treasure Hunt Activity designed to help teach literacy concepts through the study of Robert Louis Stevenson's <i>Treasure Island</i>. Students read and respond to text from the book and use a map to find buried treasure in Minecraft.</p> <p>A Home from Home (Swiss Family Robinson) Build a home on the island based on descriptions from the text of <i>Swiss Family Robinson</i>.</p>

READING – COMPREHENSION

ATTAINMENT TARGET	ACTIVITY
Maintain positive attitudes to reading and an understanding of what they read by: <ul style="list-style-type: none">continuing to read and discuss an increasingly wide range of fiction, poetry, plays, non-fiction and reference books or textbooks.reading books that are structured in different ways and reading for a range of purposes.increasing their familiarity with a wide range of books, including myths, legends and traditional stories, modern fiction, fiction from our literary heritage, and books from other cultures and traditions.recommending books that they have read to their peers, giving reasons for their choices.identifying and discussing themes and conventions in and across a wide range of writing.making comparisons within and across books.learning a wider range of poetry by heart.preparing poems and plays to read aloud and to perform, showing understanding through intonation, tone and volume so that the meaning is clear to an audience.	<p>Fantastic Mr. Fox Identify how words and phrases supply meaning to a story, create your own narrative, and build an underground world in Minecraft.</p> <p>The Treasure Hunt Activity designed to help teach literacy concepts through the study of Robert Louis Stevenson's <i>Treasure Island</i>. Students read and respond to text from the book and use a map to find buried treasure in Minecraft.</p> <p>A Home from Home (Swiss Family Robinson) Build a home on the island based on descriptions from the text of <i>Swiss Family Robinson</i>.</p> <p>English Adventures Cambridge Assessment English has combined its expertise with the power of Minecraft to create this fun learning experience.</p>



<p>Understand what they read, in books they can read independently, by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • checking that the book makes sense to them, discussing their understanding and exploring the meaning of words in context. • asking questions to improve their understanding. • drawing inferences such as inferring characters' feelings, thoughts and motives from their actions, and justifying inferences with evidence. • predicting what might happen from details stated and implied. • summarising the main ideas drawn from more than 1 paragraph, identifying key details that support the main ideas. • identifying how language, structure and presentation contribute to meaning. 	<p>The Treasure Hunt</p> <p>Activity designed to help teach literacy concepts through the study of Robert Louis Stevenson's Treasure Island. Students read and respond to text from the book and use a map to find buried treasure in Minecraft.</p>
<p>Discuss and evaluate how authors use language, including figurative language, considering the impact on the reader.</p>	<p>My Shore Adventure</p> <p>Explore Treasure Island through Minecraft. Gather information about a character using P.E.E. (Point, Evidence and Explanation), build vocabulary, and write descriptive sentences.</p>
<p>Distinguish between statements of fact and opinion.</p>	
<p>Retrieve, record and present information from non-fiction.</p>	
<p>Participate in discussions about books that are read to them and those they can read for themselves, building on their own and others' ideas and challenging views courteously.</p>	
<p>Explain and discuss their understanding of what they have read, including through formal presentations and debates, maintaining a focus on the topic and using notes where necessary.</p>	
<p>Provide reasoned justifications for their views.</p>	



WRITING - COMPOSITION

ATTAINMENT TARGET	ACTIVITY
<p>Plan their writing by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> identifying the audience for and purpose of the writing, selecting the appropriate form and using other similar writing as models for their own. noting and developing initial ideas, drawing on reading and research where necessary. in writing narratives, considering how authors have developed characters and settings in what pupils have read, listened to or seen performed. 	<p>Leagues of Literacy Students explore a huge fantasy map and create a written piece of science fiction based on their Minecraft adventures.</p> <p>Fairy Tale Reimagined This lesson is designed to provide an opportunity to mix world building with storytelling while using many of the Minecraft: Education Edition tools.</p>
<p>Draft and write by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> selecting appropriate grammar and vocabulary, understanding how such choices can change and enhance meaning. in narratives, describing settings, characters and atmosphere and integrating dialogue to convey character and advance the action. precising longer passages. using a wide range of devices to build cohesion within and across paragraphs. using further organisational and presentational devices to structure text and to guide the reader [for example, headings, bullet points, underlining]. 	<p>Conflict In Stories Through exploring a set of related conflicts, players will consider ways they might bring resolution through storytelling and world-building.</p> <p>Narrative In Perspective In this Minecraft challenge, players will explore the ways that different narrative perspectives influence writing.</p> <p>Characters All Around Inspired by meeting characters in-world, players will consider details that can help introduce character development in their own writing.</p>
<p>Evaluate and edit by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> assessing the effectiveness of their own and others' writing. proposing changes to vocabulary, grammar and punctuation to enhance effects and clarify meaning. ensuring the consistent and correct use of tense throughout a piece of writing. ensuring correct subject and verb agreement when using singular and plural, distinguishing between the language of speech and writing and choosing the appropriate register. 	<p>Reading And Writing Minecraft Students read "Escape from the Overworld," a chapter book for ages 7-12 that takes place as if Minecraft is real, then create their own books.</p>



WRITING - VOCABULARY, GRAMMAR AND PUNCTUATION

ATTAINMENT TARGET	ACTIVITY
<p>Develop their understanding of the concepts set out in English appendix 2 by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• recognising vocabulary and structures that are appropriate for formal speech and writing, including subjunctive forms.• using passive verbs to affect the presentation of information in a sentence.• using the perfect form of verbs to mark relationships of time and cause.• using expanded noun phrases to convey complicated information concisely.• using modal verbs or adverbs to indicate degrees of possibility.• using relative clauses beginning with who, which, where, when, whose, that or with an implied (ie omitted) relative pronoun.• learning the grammar for years 5 and 6 in [English appendix 2].	<p>Instructional Writing Task</p> <p>In this lesson, students are challenged to write down a set of step-by-step instructions (using imperative verbs and time connectives) for others to follow to build a simple structure in Minecraft.</p>

