Reading
Thematic Overview
'The Lighthouse Keepers Lunch' — Ronda Armitage

The Lighthouse Keeper's Lunch by Ronda Armitage is a charming story about a lighthouse keeper named Mr. Grinling who faces a fun challenge when seagulls keep stealing his lunch, leading to clever ideas and heartwarming adventures by the sea.

English

The story allows pupils to explore storytelling techniques, such as sequencing events and creating their own problem-and-solution narratives. It also supports the development of descriptive writing by encouraging children to describe settings, like the lighthouse and seaside, and to write character-focused pieces about Mr. Grinling or the sneaky seagulls.

Geography

Set by the sea, the story offers a glimpse into the life of a lighthouse keeper and their environment, emphasising the special connection between the keeper, the sea, and the wildlife, especially the seagulls.

With vibrant illustrations and a delightful narrative, the book celebrates the beauty of the coastal world, highlighting nature and marine life.

Science

The book allows pupils to explore the effects of temperature on food, as they discuss how Mrs. Grinling keeps the lighthouse keeper's lunch fresh using various methods. The story also offers a chance to investigate the properties of different materials, such as waterproofing and insulation, through the characters' efforts to protect the lunch from seagulls and the elements.

Music

The Lighthouse Keeper's Lunch provides opportunities for pupils to explore music by creating soundscapes to represent the sea, waves, and seagulls, using percussion instruments and vocal effects. Pupils can also compose a simple rhythmic pattern to mimic the repetitive motion of the pulley system and the seagulls' squawking.

ICT

Pupils begin creating digital illustrations of the lighthouse, designing animations to show how the lunch is transported, or using coding programs to simulate seagull movements..
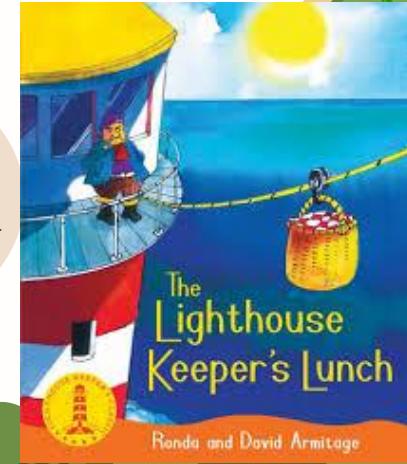
History

The book can spark conversations about historical jobs, such as being a lighthouse keeper. This encourages students to consider how education has evolved over time. The story provides insight into the history of lighthouses and the communities near the coast. Students can create timelines to illustrate how these important structures have developed and their role in maritime history.

The Lighthouse Keeper's Lunch
Ronda and David Armitage

Greenfields Academy

C.I.T
Where learning comes first