



**Literacy Year 6
into Year 7**
Summer 2021

Highams Park School Transition Project

Welcome!

This is your first Literacy Project of many which you can contribute to during your time as a Highams Park School student.

Whole School Literacy takes a look at a wide range of topical issues and considers how we can apply speaking, reading and writing skills to making a difference to our learning, our relationships, our school community and to the world in which we operate.

With a language tool belt we gain the power to make a difference in our world.



In this project:

You will find a range of texts and a range of tasks. Choose which ones you are interested to complete and hand them to your tutor for display when you begin as a Highams Park School student in September.

You can also email your work to Mrs Taylor, Whole School Literacy Coordinator, at: ktaylor@highamparkschool.co.uk

Tasks can be completed and saved in the following ways:

- Handwritten work
- Work produced on the PC
- Photographs
- Film recordings

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Our Project
Theme:

Epping Forest



Word Sort Task: which of the words below do you associate with a forest? Put them into one of the columns below. What other words can you think of to add to each column?

nature, ancient, aeroplane, dagger, tower, laziness, wildflowers, legend, cave, roots, crime, axe, coach

Associated with a forest

Not associated with a forest

Can you add a reason *why* you've sorted each word this way?

Epping Forest: True or False?

[An Outdoor Escape in London](#)

Words from the Sorting Task are taken from the article linked above (in blue).

Task:

Read the text on the next slide or click on the link for the full text and answer the questions on the following slide.

While there aren't any mountains to speak of or great lakes to circumnavigate within the capital, there are surprising pockets of nature hidden inside the M25. We sent North London local and outdoor and travel writer Oliver Smith to explore a corner of the city that's provided him with an outdoor escape while his adventures across Britain and Europe were on hold—Epping Forest.

If you ever find yourself on a flight to Heathrow descending over London, peek out the window on the right (soon after the seatbelt sign goes bing). Circling high among the clouds, the most impressive sight in the capital isn't Big Ben, Buckingham Palace – nor even the dome of St Paul's. It is the green sweep of Epping Forest: one of England's last great ancient woodlands. It is a pocket Amazon that, by some strange accident of geography, has snuck inside the M25. Epping Forest is a long thin wedge running roughly north-south: in the far north it is a backdrop to an Essex countryside of church bells, hedgerows and bowls clubs. In the south, its falling leaves scatter over inner city London: roundabouts, car parks, mosques with gilded domes, streets where the smell of fresh naan wafts through the air. It is mostly described as a wood on the edge of London. But seen from the passenger seat of a descending plane, it looks more like a wood travelling into London: a green dagger, plunging into the urban sprawl.

The forest is near my house and I go walking there often. In 2020 I had planned hiking trips to Snowdonia, the Scottish Highlands and the Alps – but travel bans meant Epping Forest ended up being the stand-in wilderness every time. It is a landscape with a very different set of rules for a walker. Trekking in the mountains means always being aware of your location: constantly making navigation decisions. Amongst the thickets and thorns of these woods, you can rarely follow the needle of the compass but instead must obey the path as it unravels before you. The triumph of a mountain walk is making the summit. The equivalent achievement in the Epping – to my mind, at least – is briefly forgetting about the city and the world, and getting hopelessly, gloriously lost. One place you can't get lost is Queen Elizabeth's Hunting Lodge – a three-storey tower on the threshold of the forest, which marks the starting point for my walk. Its name is misleading – the lodge was actually built during the reign of Henry VIII when Epping Forest was a royal forest. Some say the King shot passing deer from the windows in a spectacularly lazy kind of hunting. In the same spirit of royal laziness, legend also tells Queen Elizabeth rode up the stairs on her horse

True or False?

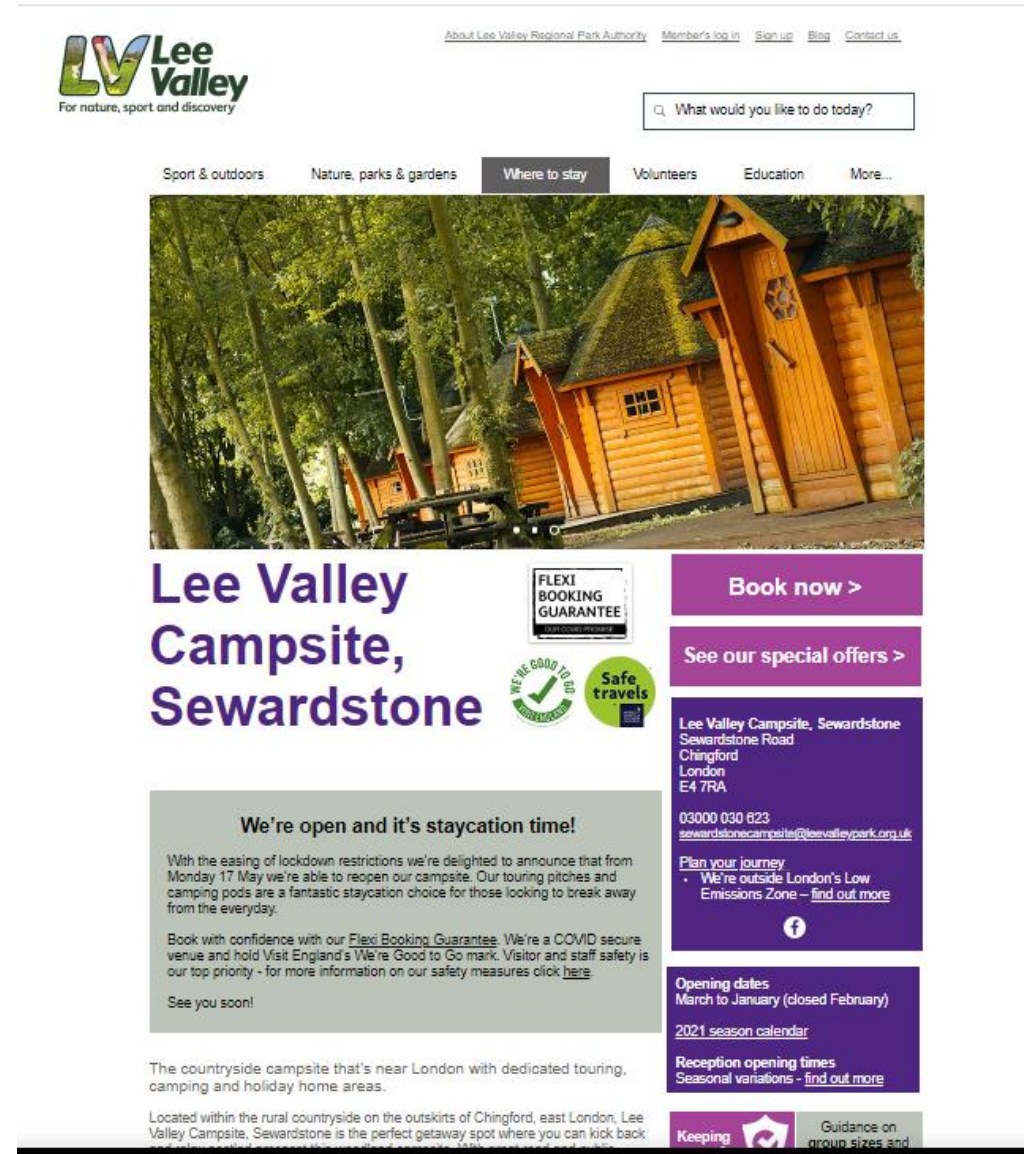
	True?	False?
Oliver Smith, the writer, is from the north of England		
From an aeroplane, descending over London to Heathrow, Epping Forest is a more impressive sight than Big Ben or Buckingham Palace.		
To the north and south of Epping Forest, the environments are similar.		
Epping Forest is dangerous, like a dagger, attacking city life.		
The paths of Epping Forest are surprising.		
Getting lost in Epping Forest is an exciting adventure.		
In the C19th there was a battle to save the forest from destruction by wealthy land owners who saw that a profit could be made by building.		
Queen Elizabeth's hunting lodge was built when she came to the throne.		
King Henry VIII is said to have shot deer from the comfort of the hunting lodge.		

Which parts of Epping Forest have you visited?

Task: Imagine you are staying at the [Lee Valley Campsite](#) and you visit Epping Forest.

Write a postcard in which you describe the forest and what you did there. The map on the next slide could give you some reminders of places you might have visited.

Dear Mum and Dad,
Today we visited Queen Elizabeth's Hunting Lodge. ...



The screenshot shows the website for Lee Valley Campsite, Sewardstone. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links for 'About Lee Valley Regional Park Authority', 'Member's log in', 'Sign up', 'Blog', and 'Contact us'. Below this is a search bar with the placeholder text 'What would you like to do today?'. A secondary navigation bar includes 'Sport & outdoors', 'Nature, parks & gardens', 'Where to stay' (which is highlighted), 'Volunteers', 'Education', and 'More...'. The main content area features a large photograph of a wooden hunting lodge with a thatched roof, surrounded by trees. Below the photo, the text reads 'Lee Valley Campsite, Sewardstone'. To the right of this text are several icons: 'FLEXI BOOKING GUARANTEE', 'WE'RE GOOD TO GO', and 'Safe travels'. A purple button says 'Book now >'. Below that is another purple button 'See our special offers >'. A purple box contains the address: 'Lee Valley Campsite, Sewardstone, Sewardstone Road, Chingford, London, E4 7RA', the phone number '03000 030 623', and the email 'sewardstonecampsite@leevalleypark.org.uk'. Below this is a section titled 'We're open and it's staycation time!' with text about reopening and a 'Plan your journey' section. At the bottom, there is a footer with 'Keeping' and 'Guidance on group sizes and'.

-  Broxbourne Boat trips
-  Harlow Playhouse
-  Harlow Leisure Centre
-  Gibberd Garden
-  Paradise Wildlife Park
-  Redwings Ada Cole
-  Thornwood Springs
-  North Weald Airfield Museum & Market
-  Ashlyns Farm Shop
-  Essex Way
-  Lee Valley Park Farms
-  Lee Valley Whitewater Centre
-  Royal Gunpowder Mills
-  Waltham Abbey



- 15  Epping Forest District Museum
- 16  Copped Hall
- 17  Epping Ongar Railway
- 18  Ongar Leisure Centre
- 19  Greenstead Church
- 20  Gunpowder Park
- 21  Epping Forest Visitor Centre
- 22  Queen Elizabeth's Hunting Lodge
- 23  Epping Forest
- 24  Postal Museum
- 25  Stapleford Airfield
- 26  Secret Nuclear Bunker
- 27  Loughton Leisure Centre
- 28  Kings Head Chigwell

Vocabulary Challenge

Task

- 1) Read this article:
- 2) Complete a vocabulary building sheet (as can be seen on the next slide) for each of the words below:
 - 1) sovereign
 - 2) intact
 - 3) designated
 - 4) grandstand
 - 5) commission

You could reproduce this in Word, inside the powerpoint slide (next) or by hand.

2. Use a dictionary and thesaurus to complete the top four boxes

1. Write the word you're focusing on here. Use a new template for each word:

Extension task:
Complete the bottom two boxes

Vocabulary development	
Definition of word and part of speech (noun, verb, etc)	Synonyms (words of similar meaning):
sovereign	
3 examples of usage in a sentence	Antonyms (words of opposite meaning):
Extension task: the etymology of the word (the history of where it comes from)	Extension task: words that are in the same word family.

Definition of word and part of speech (noun, verb, etc)

Synonyms (words of similar meaning):

Click to add text

3 examples of usage in a sentence

Antonyms (words of opposite meaning):

Extension task: the etymology of the word (the history of where it comes from)

Extension task: words that are in the same word family.

Queen Elizabeth Hunting Lodge

Here is another article that focuses on [Queen Elizabeth I's Hunting Lodge](#)

Here is a choice of tasks:

Task 1: Write a summary of the information about the hunting lodge

Task 2: If the Hunting Lodge opens this summer, after the Covid-19 safety measures, take a visit to and describe the lodge. You could do this as a written document or a video report. Include:

- A description of the outside of the building
- A description of each room: the walls and flooring, the windows, the items displayed with a focus on the senses

Taking a look at a poem

Perhaps you've visited Suntrap? On that site there used to be a lunatic asylum. The poet, John Clare, was an inmate in that asylum for four years. This poem is probably about Epping Forest.

Task:

- 1) Read the poem on the next slide.
- 2) List the features of the landscape that Clare chooses to focus on.
- 3) What impression are you given of the hills in the phrases 'breakneck hills' and 'headlong go'?
- 4) What does the verb 'enshrouds' mean and what picture does Clare create of evening at Buckhurst Hill?

A Walk in the Forest

by John Clare
(1793-1864)

I love the Forest and its airy bounds
Where friendly Campbell takes his daily rounds
I love the breakneck hills - that headlong go
And leave me high - and half the world below
I love to see the Beech Hill mounting high
The brook without a bridge and nearly dry
There's Bucket's Hill - a place of furze and clouds
Which evening in a golden blaze enshrouds

Bucket's Hill was the local name for Buckhurst Hill. Campbell, an inmate, was the son of the poet, Thomas Campbell. 'Furze' is another word for 'gorse', a low rough bushy plant.

If you were to write a poem about Epping Forest, what would you focus on?

Task: List the things that come to mind when you think of Epping Forest. Consider the senses. If you don't know Epping Forest well, you should be able to imagine a few things.

For example:

Brown dusty paths

A million shades of green

Watch this modern poem by Hollie McNish

Task:

List the things of the forest
that McNish includes in her
poem

Eg

leaf piles

tree ropes

dens



Task Options:

Using your notes from Slide 17:

- Write a poem about Epping Forest. This video will give you further ideas. or
- Write a script to accompany this video.

Whichever task you choose, aim to bring the details of the forest to life by applying imagery which focuses on the senses.

- Your poem can be short or long.
- It doesn't have to rhyme



Mega Challenge:

Task: Write an article about Epping Forest in which you either persuade visitors that this is a wonderful place to visit or in which you present your concerns and advice about using the forest responsibly.

Include:

- A headline
- Information and examples about the forest and things to do there
- Reasons for your point of view
- A quotation from either an expert or a regular user of the forest
- Emotive language (see examples on the following slides)
- A range of vocabulary for effect
- A range of sentence forms for effect
- A photo

Look at examples of structural and language features on the next two slides.

How does this writer use language to influence?

List of 3 → Steeped in history, character and green spaces, this corner of Essex has all the right ingredients for a short break – whether you're looking to embrace the great outdoors, soak up some royal heritage, step back in time, or enjoy the café culture and retail therapy. → **Listing of dynamic verbs**

Direct address → Epping Forest District's location makes it an ideal visitor destination, and its London Underground connections make it perfect for day trips. Both Epping Forest and the River Lea provide direct green links from London meaning visitors can choose to arrive on foot or by bike. With so much on offer many visitors choose to stay longer and make a weekend of it, as well as finding it a great base from which to explore the capital.

Adverb for emphasis → Epping lends its name to a forest, a market town and surrounding district that never fails to surprise and delight visitors – and all just a walk, ride or tube journey away from the Capital. → **Adverb 'just' makes it seem very accessible**

Positive verb choices → The ancient market town of Waltham Abbey is the resting place of King Harold, home to the Royal Gunpowder Mills and neighbour to the Lee Valley White Water Centre. → **Interesting historical context**

Imperative verbs → For a great day in the countryside, head into Epping Forest and call in on Queen Elizabeth's Hunting Lodge or discover the delights of the Essex Way beginning outside Epping Station on the Central Line. Lee Valley Regional Park offers much for the leisure visitor and Lee Valley Park Farms and Ashlyns Farm at North Weald are popular family days out.

alliteration → Greensted's 11th century church is the oldest wooden church in the world whilst at Copped Hall, Shakespeare's Midsummer Night's Dream was first performed. Combine your visit with lunch in the leafy market towns of Epping or Ongar, two destinations linked by the Epping Ongar Heritage Railway or alight at North Weald with museum and weekly outdoor market on this former Battle of Britain airfield, still active today. For the ultimate retail therapy head for Loughton and Buckhurst Hill where you'll find fashion and designer goods that inspired the TOWIE look. Finish with fine dining in one of the district's many acclaimed restaurants. → **Presents a variety of places to visit, old to modern**

Alternative Challenge

Task: Produce a video report in which you either persuade visitors that this is a wonderful place to visit or you present your concerns and advice about using the forest responsibly.

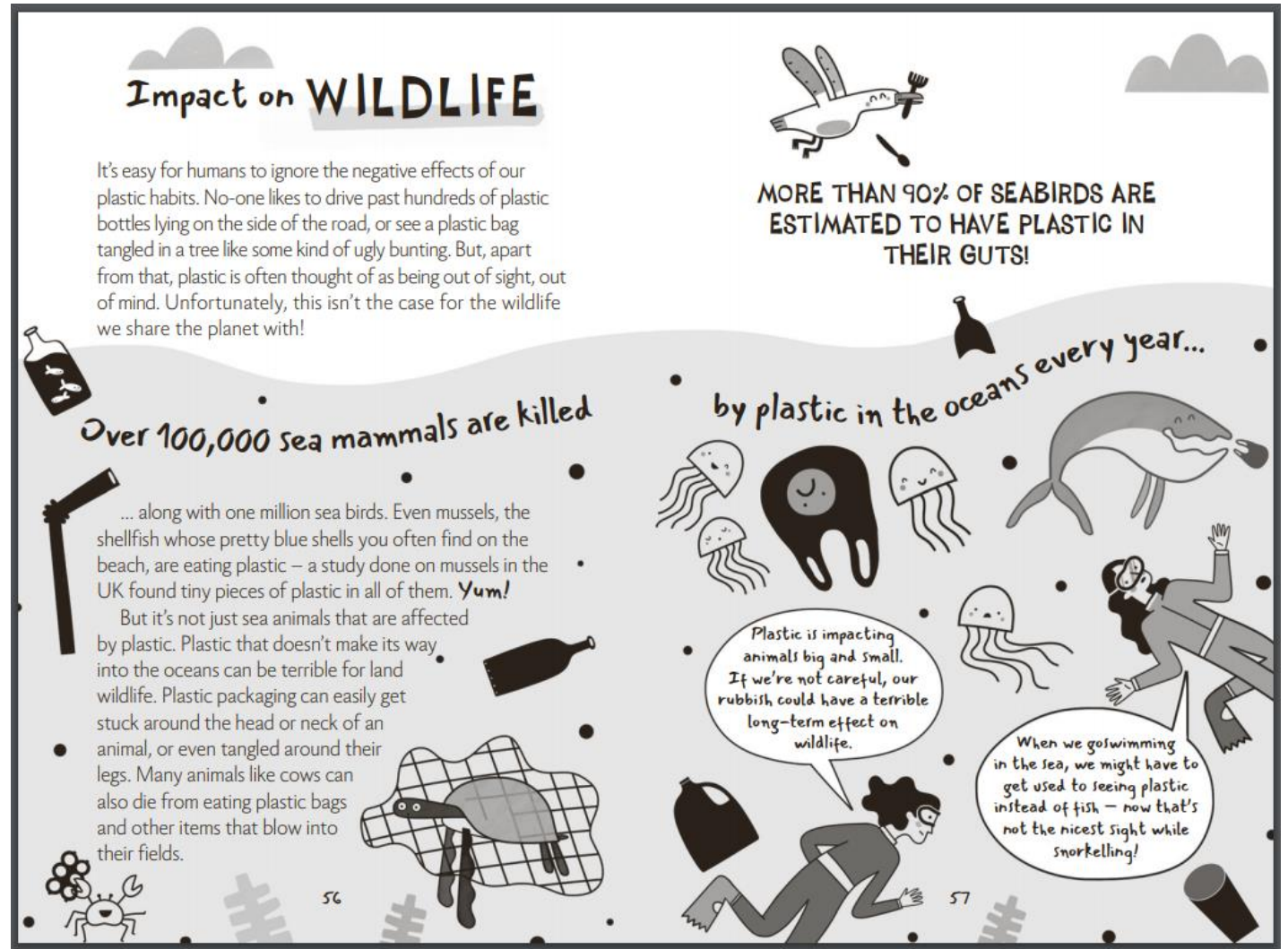
Here is a short example.



Task: Produce a poster to persuade Epping Forest visitors to take their litter home with them.

Choose language and images carefully which will influence your audience.

<https://www.kidsagainstplastic.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/Impact-on-wildlife.pdf>



LITTER PICKING

We've done our fair share of litter picks in the past. They're a great way to have an immediate impact on the plastic pollution in your neighbourhood, as it doesn't take long to see a big difference.

However, it's important to **be careful** when picking up rubbish – sometimes there are items or places it is best to avoid. So, here are our top tips for staying safe while litter picking!



Think about your location

There are so many different places you can litter pick. Beaches, woodland paths, city streets... you can find rubbish almost anywhere that humans have been! However, often the places where you find the most litter are the ones that we use the most regularly, like near roads.

WE'VE DONE LITTER PICKS ON ROADSIDES AND COLLECTED MORE THAN 1,000 PIECES, JUST AS A FAMILY!

While you can achieve great results from litter picking along roadsides, they can also be **very dangerous**. Make sure you stay away from busy highways, and always stick to places with a pavement. Always have a parent or guardian with you, and ensure you wear something bright so you can be easily seen – such as a high-vis jacket.





Be hygienic

When litter picking, you often find items that aren't... particularly clean.

Many times, the rubbish has sat there for so long that it's covered in dirt and bacteria – **yuck!** That's why it's super important to stay safe and healthy when picking up. Think about your gear – get hold of a litter picker and thick work gloves work – you DON'T want to be using your bare hands.



ALWAYS MAKE SURE YOU HAVE A BOTTLE OF HAND SANITISER IN YOUR POCKET FOR WHEN YOU'RE DONE!



Be careful what you collect!

Just imagine, you've finished picking up for the day, you've got a full bag of rubbish that you're taking to the bin and – riiiiip! Your bag has split, and dropped everything back onto the floor. This is a nightmare scenario that's happened to us many times! To avoid it happening, don't pick up anything sharp (like shattered glass, or needles). Not only are these items dangerous, they're also far more likely to rip your bag open than an item like a plastic bottle.



TRY TO KEEP AN EYE OUT FOR ORGANISED LITTER PICKS IN YOUR AREA!

We've been on group litter picks before where we've collected over **2,000 pieces in just one hour** – such as one that we did on a beach in Cardiff, Wales. You can pick up incredible amounts when working together, and it also gives you a great sense of comradeship when working together to make a difference.



Extension Task: Research the following sites and produce a report about the nature of Epping Forest

<https://www.plantlife.org.uk/uk/nature-reserves-important-plant-areas/important-plant-areas/epping-forest>

Epping Forest

http://www.bbc.co.uk/england/sevenwonders/london/epping_forest/#:~:text=The%206%2C000%20acres%20of%20Epping,for%20the%20rights%20of%20commoners.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Epping_Forest

Websites about litter in our local area

<https://walthamforestecho.co.uk/cleaning-up-waltham-forest/>

<https://highampark.london/volunteer/hp-litter-pickers/>

True or False?

	True?	False?
Oliver Smith, the writer, is from the north of England		False
From an aeroplane, descending over London to Heathrow, Epping Forest is a more impressive sight than Big Ben or Buckingham Palace.	True	
To the north and south of Epping Forest, the environments are similar		False
Epping Forest is dangerous, like a dagger, attacking city life		False
The paths of Epping Forest are surprising	True	
Getting lost in Epping Forest is an exciting adventure	True	
Queen Elizabeth's hunting lodge was built when she came to the throne		False
King Henry VIII is said to have shot deer from the comfort of the hunting lodge	True	



We look forward to seeing you
September!

Highams Park School
Transition Project

