

# Elementary, My Dear Watson

**Rationale:**

A close study of an abridged version of Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's Sherlock Holmes short story, "The Speckled Band", will immerse pupils in the world of the mystery genre. Pupils will engage in a forensic science investigation in which precision and analysis is key.

**Prior Learning Links:**

**ICT:** all year groups learn about using the internet safely and responsibly; in Year 3 / 4, pupils learn how to make a Wiki page.

**Science:** Our science investigation allows us to develop pupils' investigation skills as well as reinforcing important scientific ideas such as repeating tests, measuring and recording accurately and looking for and explaining anomalies. Pupils will develop their understanding of making predictions and summarising findings.

**History:** this year we study Crime and Punishment in many of our experiences; previously pupils have learnt about Guy Fawkes and his crime; in Year 3 / 4 some Anglo Saxon punishments are discussed.

**Hook:**

Each pupil will receive a letter through the post during Half Term; it will be from Miss Helen Stoner.

**Outcome:**

Write a Mystery Story.

A forensic scientist's report on the Matter of Splatter investigation.

Create a website for Sherlock Holmes' Detection Agency.

## CLA (Core Learning Area)

### ENQUIRY QUESTION

**What skills does a modern forensic scientist need?**

**Literacy**

Increasing familiarity with fiction from our literary heritage.

Using a range of strategies to understand reading material including inference, prediction, vocabulary and summarising;

Understanding the features of mystery stories: villains, suspects, clues, motives and revelations.

Plan, write and improve a mystery story featuring Sherlock Holmes:

Identifying the appropriate form using "The Speckled Band" as a model considering how Conan Doyle developed characters and settings.

Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar:

Revise and refine use of dialogue in stories to move action along and reveal character;

Learn how the passive voice is used to write in an impersonal way in non-fiction writing such as scientific reports and police case notes.

## Science A Matter of Splatter Investigation

Looking for patterns and thinking about cause and effect to construct explanations and design solutions; understanding how spatter evidence from a crime scene can be analysed to learn information about the crime.

I can plan a scientific enquiry making decisions about variables, measurements and equipment.

I can record data, choosing the best way to present it and communicating my findings with scientific language.

## ICT

We are Web Developers

We will learn how to create a website for Sherlock Holmes' Detection Agency including the following elements:

- Understand how computer networks work and the opportunities they offer for communication and collaboration;
- Using search technologies safely and effectively;
- Using hyperlinks;
- Evaluating content for accuracy, potential, bias and quality;
- Embedding images and media from other websites and citing these.

### Learning Value Focus

Value: Truth, security, compassion. Being responsible when using the internet.

Skill: Theorising, analysing, logical reasoning, precise measuring, ICT

How Long?

4 weeks

When?

Term 2: Weeks 1 - 4

Continuous Learning:

Literacy, Maths (Arithmetic and Reasoning), Music, PSHE, French, PE

Visitor:

A parent who is a police constable or scientist?

Parental Involvement:

Read the letter when it is delivered to your home

Read some Sherlock Holmes stories e.g. the Young Sherlock series by Andrew Lane

Read other children's detective novels e.g. Scarlet and Ivy, Murder Most Unladylike

Watch some suitable, age-appropriate, Sherlock Holmes films

Watch Horrible Histories to learn about crime and law and order in the past