

ThoughtBox

# HOME

EXPLORING SOCIETY

## KEY STAGE 1 & 2

Exploring the social issues of our time to develop a wider view and a deeper connection with others

## Aims and Objectives

Pupils will practise skills of critical thinking & questioning, deep listening and empathy building. Lessons will encourage students to engage in empathic engagement with people experiencing homelessness, understanding some of the root causes of homelessness as well as how it might feel to be living without a home.

Lessons will explore and create ways to make people feel welcome, consider what the feeling of a home might be and understand ways to make a places into a home. They will consider some of the challenges that come with living without a home, and explore feelings of homesickness.

## Questions explored:

- What is home?
- What makes a place a home rather than a house?
- What are some of the common ways that people make their houses feel like home?
- What does a home mean to you?
- What does it feel like to be homesick?
- What are some of the causes of homelessness?
- What are some of the biggest challenges of living without a home?
- What can we do to help people feel at home in our communities?

## Contents of the topic

A downloadable box of lesson plans for KS1&2, with each week offering a 60 minute lesson on the following:

WEEK 1 | The culture of home

WEEK 2 | Feeling at home

WEEK 3 | Living without a home

WEEK 4 | Needing to belong

Our Key Stage 1 curriculum is all based around stories. Each of our topics is explored through a bespoke picture- book story, engaging children in some of the key themes and ideas of the topic in simple, accessible and exciting ways. Lessons all begin with reading the story and then move through a range of teaching and learning ideas to focus on particular themes, issues and discussions from within the narrative.

*ThoughtBox KS1* is structured in the same format as our KS2 curriculum, and the Journey's topic for KS1 contains four different hour- long lesson plans opening the box with discussion-based activities to help pupils to engage, understand, explore perspectives and feel empowered about the topic.

All of the KS1 stories contain non-human creatures as the central characters and engage children in learning about wider social issues through metaphor, symbols and themed narratives. Lessons develop key skills of discussion, active listening, critical thinking, empathy and global learning.



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**Title:** *Badger's New House*

**Summary:** Badger is excited – he's just built himself a new house and is feeling ever- so- proud of his efforts. He invites each of his friends to come around and admire his fine new house, but soon realises that he has missed out the one vital ingredient in his building work – the feeling of home. How will Badger learn to turn his house into a home?

Each topic comes with a scheme of work which links to PSHE and SMSC learning objectives as well as wider learning objectives within key National Curriculum subjects.