

English week 5 Session 1	English Meerkat Mail
Starter	Start the week by recalling the Meerkat Mail story https://www.bing.com/videos/search?q=meerkat+mail+youtube&docid=608029328648638269&mid=3C903FD786217C5CA1643C903FD786217C5CA164&view=detail&FORM=VIRE
Parent	This week they are preparing to create their own story about a character that visits other areas in the world following the lines of Meerkat Mail. It is important that they understand the characters' feelings and intentions within this story first to build their own character for next week. Ask your child if they have had experience of a family member going away. Ask them questions to encourage them to write a letter as if one of the characters, such as the ones below.
Activity	Imagine they are one of Sunny's relatives: mum, dad, brother, sister. How would it feel to be missing Sunny? What would you say to Sunny to encourage him to come home? Would you be understanding that he felt family life was too crowded or would you be cross? Would you have wanted to go with Sunny? Would you be apologising for not sharing food/bed/play things with your brother Sunny? The activity today is to write a letter to Sunny to encourage him to come home. They can choose any part of the story when he is not at home. Use the template on the website if they wish, or create their own.
English week 5 Session 2	English Meerkat Mail
Starter	Start by watching the geography clip about climate across the world, stopping it before they speak about living in a cold country (2.55 minutes on the clip) https://central.espresso.co.uk/espresso/primary_uk/subject/module/video/item409363/grade1/module376103/index.html
Parent	Today they need to imagine that they are packing a suitcase to visit one of the places mentioned in the story, e.g. the rainforest in Madagascar, the marsh, a farm etc. Use the map of South Africa to discuss the different climates and weather conditions asking them what would they need to pack.
Activity	Draw items that they would need to take with them if visiting one of the places on the suitcase activity sheet on the website. Remember sun cream would be good in any of the areas as Africa is a hot country with much sunshine and we need to stay safe in the sun. Think about other clothing, hats, sun glasses etc. Please label the items also.
English week 5 Session 3	English Meerkat Mail
Starter	No starter
Parent	In today's session the children will begin to imagine more about the places that Sunny visited on his travels. If you have an atlas or any travel brochures about Africa it would be lovely to share these together. Perhaps you have photos from visiting the continent which you could share and discuss.
Activity	Choose one of the activity sheets on the website - there are four to choose from. Imagine they are Sunny and are writing a review for other visitors so that they can see what the

	place is like in case they travel there too. Use the story to help - look back at the YouTube clip on session 1. Please fill in the spaces with pictures, phrases or short sentences. Make it as creative as you wish!
English week 5 Session 4	English Meerkat Mail
Starter	Look at the power point on the website about how to write postcards.
Parent	Today they will write a postcard as if they are Sunny writing home. It is tempting to copy the postcards within the book but encourage them to do it from memory. They can be as imaginative as they like.
Activities	Use one of the postcard templates to create an imaginary postcard back as if Sunny writing back to his family in the Kalahari Desert. Don't forget to copy the address clearly on the right hand half of the postcard from slide 4 on the starter power point. The address always needs to be clear so that the postal worker can deliver it to the right place - so we want to see your best handwriting please.
English week 5 Session 5	English Meerkat Mail
Starter	None today
Parent	Session 5 is an opportunity to complete any activities outstanding.