



# Feet

## Cross-curricular Links



## Cross-curricular links: Feet

### Art – Foot painting

#### Watch the film:

Watch Tom Yendell  
on: [bbc.co.uk/  
programmes/  
p01pm8w4](http://bbc.co.uk/programmes/p01pm8w4)

Tom has trained his feet to do everyday tasks. He's been practicing using his feet for over fifty years. He is now an accomplished foot artist.

Watch here: <http://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/p01pm8w4>

How has this daily practice changed the flexibility in his feet? Have a go at writing your name, drawing or painting a picture using your feet. How does it feel? How flexible are your feet? Try practicing each day for a week. Do your pictures improve?

### Maths – Dino maths

This dinosaur footprint was discovered recently on the Isle of Skye, off the north west coast of Scotland. The footprint belonged to a Sauropod dinosaur which would have been about 15 metres in length and weighed around 10 tonnes. These 'Diplodocus-like' dinosaurs roamed around Scotland roughly 170 million years ago. The foot print below is about 61cm across.



Image Credit:  
Photographer Dr Steve Brusatte



### Related links:

Slippers for  
school: [bbc.co.uk/  
newsround/38828330](https://www.bbc.co.uk/newsround/38828330)

- How many times smaller is your footprint compared to the dinosaur footprint? (Can you express your answer as a fraction or percentage?)
- How many of your classmates standing on each other's shoulders would be the same size as the dinosaur?
- A foot is also a unit of measurement. Can you convert your foot measurement / dinosaur foot measurement to feet and inches?

## Literacy - The slippers debate

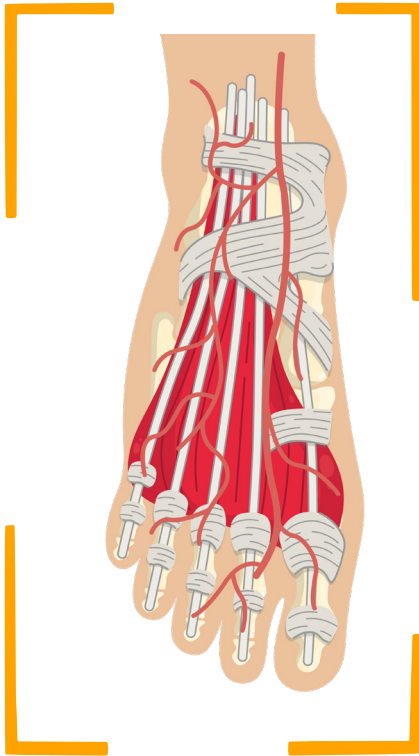
These children wear slippers to school -

[bbc.co.uk/newsround/38828330](https://www.bbc.co.uk/newsround/38828330)

Why do they think that slippers help them to learn? How might slippers affect their foot flexibility? What do you think? Do you think that you should wear slippers to school? Could you wear slippers for every lesson? When might slippers in school be a bad idea? Write a letter to your head teacher to persuade them about your point of view. Or prepare your argument for a debate in class or a video blog.



## PSHE – Funky feet or fresh feet



Your feet do a lot of work every day, so you need to keep them clean and look after them. Find out the best way to keep your feet smelling fresh and in good shape; make a leaflet or film to show to a younger class in your school!

### Foot facts:

Did you know that your feet each have 26 bones? Together, they contain one quarter of the bones in your body.

Your big toe has two bones and each of your other toes has three. These bones are called phalanges.

The middle part of your feet has five bones called metatarsals.

The biggest bone in your foot is your heel bone. Along with the ankle bone these bones carry most of your weight.

Each foot has more than 250,000 sweat glands, and they can produce up to half a pint of moisture a day! No wonder our feet can get a bit whiffy sometimes!

## Science – Feet adaptation

Every animal has different feet. Look at these pictures. Whose feet are these? What situations have those feet adapted for?

**A: Bald Eagle** – Sharp powerful talons to hunt prey.

**B: Monkey** – A gripping thumb-like toe and sensitive pads that allow them to grab onto branches.

**C: Penguin** – Webbed feet for swimming and bare feet for regulating body temperature.

**D: Lion** - Paws have padding and retractable claws to help them walk quietly and prevent the claws from wearing down.

**E: Gecko** - Toes are covered in tiny microscopic hairs, which help them to stick to surfaces.

**F: Elephant** – Feet have ‘cushion pads’ which distribute the weight. They also use their feet to communicate, stomping the ground to send out vibrations.

Design a pair of feet for a creature that walks on hot desert sand or mudflats or on rocky mountain hillsides. What features do their feet need to have?



A



B



C



D



E



F



## History - Shoelace dilemma

Historians cannot agree who invented the first shoelace. Many would argue that shoelaces seem to have been around for as long as there have been shoes because they were needed to tie the shoe to the foot. Simple pieces of leather were bound to the foot and ankle with laces and were used in 2000 BCE during the ancient Mesopotamian period. Ancient Greeks wore sandals with leather lacing.

Modern shoelaces, as we know them today, did not become widely popular until the 20th century. Before this point, shoes were fastened with buttons or buckled. Some historians suggest that Harvey Kennedy first invented the modern shoestring in England on March 27, 1790.



Perhaps Harvey invented a particular type of shoelace, but not all historians agree that he 'invented shoelaces'. Can you find out more about shoelaces? Can you find some evidence to support the idea that Harvey Kennedy was the inventor of the modern shoelace? What do you think?

## History - Shoe story

Spanish cave drawings from more than 15,000 years ago show humans with animal skins or furs wrapped around their feet. However it wasn't until 1818, that the first pair of right and left footed shoes were invented. Before that time, shoes did not curve with the foot. How do you think they felt to wear? Do you have any pairs of shoes that have no right or left? Compare these three shoes. How have shoes changed over time? Why do you think those changes have occurred?





A: Miners shoe found near Halstatt salt mines Austria. 800 - 400 BCE.



B: Pair of beaded moccasins from the Menominee Indians, 1910.



C: Trainer China (made) 1987.

What's the same about these shoes?

What's different about these shoes?

## Three ideas to accompany the Wolfblood film

### Dance - Be more wolf

#### Watch the film:

Watch the Wolfblood film here:  
[bbc.co.uk/guides/zpjjcj6](http://bbc.co.uk/guides/zpjjcj6)

#### Vocabulary:

Canon: a choreographic device in which movements introduced by one dancer are repeated exactly by subsequent dancers in turn.

Unison: dancers moving at the same time doing the same movements.

- How do wolves move? Do they make a sound when they move?
- How do wolves gather together? They howl! In a group of five or six, try moving like a wolf pack. As you move around think about how wolves would move over rocky terrain, or stealthily stalking their prey in a forest. Now think about the city Wolfbloods. How would wolves move in the city? How would they stay unseen? How do wolves show aggression or submit to the alpha wolf? Compare how the country Wolfblood and the city Wolfblood packs might move or behave differently. What dangers does each group face? When do the wolves move in canon and when do they move in unison?

- Listen to 'Running with the wolves' here:

[bbc.co.uk/cbbc/watch/lost-and-found-sing-wolfblood](http://bbc.co.uk/cbbc/watch/lost-and-found-sing-wolfblood)

Create a dance, moving from single wolves to forming a pack. Split into city Wolfbloods or country Wolfblood packs - build up sequences of movements, bringing both groups together for a final sequence.



## Literacy/Drama – Foot forensics



- **Creative writing opportunity:** Write a police report for the stolen slate of knowledge. What is the evidence? What sort of person were they looking for? Why couldn't it have been Yana? Why did the evidence point to Orla?
- **Drama:** In the end, it was the way that Orla walked that provided the evidence that she had stolen the slate. Create a thought tunnel to suggest ways in which she might have thrown the other Wolfbloods off her scent! How could she change the way that she walked or the shape of her footprint?

A thought tunnel is where the class forms two lines facing each other. The person playing Orla walks between the lines as each member of the group speaks their advice. It can be organised so that those on one side give opposing advice to those on the other. When the character reaches the end of the alley, she makes her decision. Whose advice will she follow?

## Literacy/Drama – Alpha wolf debate

- **Creative writing opportunity:** Orla stole the slate of knowledge – she wants to be the Alpha, she says that Wolfbloods are supposed to be wild, but that Orion is enthralled by the screen. Who is right? Whose **Team** are you on? Get into groups of three, mind map your ideas. Create an argument to support your point of view.

**Team Orla** – why should wolves remain wild animals and not use technology?

**Team Orion** – how could technology help the city Wolfbloods stay ahead?

- **Drama:** Each team present your arguments to the other group. Ask questions and debate each team's point of view. Then have a class vote. What should Orion do – use the slate of knowledge or bin it and move on?