

Year 3 Autumn 2 Computing – Journey Inside a Computer.

Big Question

What do the different components inside a computer do?



Key Vocabulary for the unit:

Computer: Electronic machine that accepts and processes information to produce an output, and then stores the results.

Computer Program: A series of instructions, that are written for a computer to follow, using inputs and outputs to produce an outcome. Also known as software or applications (apps).

CPU: Central Processing Unit. The brain of a computer that deals with all the data it receives from input and output devices, as well as programs run within the computer.

Desktop: A tower computer that needs a mouse, keyboard and monitor, that remains in one place.

GPU: Graphics Processing Unit. It is a piece of hardware that is used to help generate 2D and 3D images for programs such as games.

Hard disk drive HDD: An internal or external device that can store information such as files, documents, images and programs.

QR code: Quick Response code. Is presented in a similar way to a bar code and when scanned, takes you to a specific website or provide information.

RAM: Random Access Memory. A piece of hardware that allows data to be recalled or stored within a computer.

ROM: Read Only Memory. Information stored within ROM can only be read and not edited.

Trackpad: An input device commonly found built into laptops. It is used to move the cursor with the touch of your finger. and some allow for multiple finger gestures.

Powerful knowledge/skills for this unit:

- ◆ To know the roles that inputs and outputs play on computers.
- ◆ To know what some of the different components inside a computer are e.g. CPU, RAM, hard drive, and how they work together.
- ◆ To know what a tablet is and how it is different from a laptop/desktop computer.

What I should already know from year 2:

- ◆ To know the difference between a desktop and laptop computer.
- ◆ To know that people control technology.
- ◆ To know some input devices that give a computer an instruction about what to do (output).
- ◆ To know that computers often work together

Useful diagrams for the unit:



