**Class Schedule**

1. Vocab Bingo! (15 mins)
2. Opening Activity (10 mins)
3. Read extract (10 mins)
4. Comprehension questions (15 mins)
5. Read through new vocab (10 mins)

**Vocab Bingo!**

* Follow the link in the chat to access your bingo card! First person to fill in a line wins!

**Opening Activity**

1. Aid
2. Commence
3. Heroic
4. Maximum
5. Lofty
6. Imitate
7. Perilous
8. Awkward
9. Banish
10. Adopt
11. Send someone away from a place or country as punishment
12. Very high; of a noble nature
13. To legally take someone’s child and bring it up; to take up or follow
14. Help, to help
15. The greatest amount possible
16. Begin
17. Causing difficulty; hard to deal with or unreasonable; uneasy or embarrassing
18. Having brave or determined characteristics
19. Full of danger or risk
20. Copy someone or something

**Charlotte’s Web by E. B. White**

Wilbur the pig woke up and **immediately** looked for Charlotte. He found her sitting in the corner of the **ceiling** near the back of his pen.

She looked smaller as what she looked the **previous** day, as though she **shrunk** over night.  Next to her was a funny looking **sac**, or **cocoon**.  It was peach-coloured and it was attached to the ceiling.

*Well it cannot be cotton candy*, Wilbur thought.

"What is that thing next to you Charlotte? Did you make it?"

Charlotte looked very proud of herself when she said: "I did indeed make it myself."

"Can I play with it?"  Wilbur asked **curiously**, and already imagined what fun it must be to play with a ball made out of material that looked like cotton candy.

"What?  No, you cannot play with it," Charlotte said sharply.  "It is my egg sac, my ***magnum******opus***."

"I have no idea what is the meaning of those big words."

Charlotte had a lot of **patience** and told Wilbur that *magmum opus* was Latin word for 'work of art.'

"This egg sac is my 'work of art', the best I have ever made."

Wilbur had to agree, it was truly beautiful.  But still he did not know why Charlotte made it and what was on the inside.

Charlotte told him that there were five hundred and fourteen eggs in the sac.  Wilbur could not believe his ears. The only thing he could think of to say was, "You're kidding."

Charlotte **assured** him that she counted it herself and again told him that the sac was her best work yet and that she used the strongest and prettiest silk that she had to make it.  The best part was that the sac was also waterproof.  The eggs would be safe and warm and dry.

Wilbur saw that Charlotte looked a bit sad, even after she made a **masterpiece**.

"It is really pretty, but why are you sad?"

"Don't worry about me, I am just a bit sad that I will not see my children come out of their eggs next spring," Charlotte said in a soft voice.

"Don't be silly, we are all going to see your five hundred and fourteen baby spiders running around and the geese will also have some **goslings** and the sheep their new lambs and we will all play outside and be happy."

"O dear Wilbur," said Charlotte with a sigh, "you are such a good friend and I just have a feeling that I will not be around to see that happen.  I don't feel good at all and I think I am **languishing** to tell you the truth..."

Wilbur didn't understand the word "languish" and he hated to bother Charlotte by asking her to explain. But he was so worried he felt he had to ask.

"What does 'languishing' mean?"

"It means I'm slowing up, feeling my age. I'm not young any more, Wilbur. But I don't want you to worry about me. This is your big day today. Look at my web-doesn't it show up well with the **dew** on it? "

Charlotte's web never looked more beautiful than it looked this morning. Each **strand** held **dozens** of bright drops of early morning dew. The light from the east struck it and made it all plain and clear. It was a perfect piece of designing and building. In another hour or two, a steady stream of people would pass by, admiring it, and reading it, and looking at Wilbur, and **marvelling** at the **miracle**.

As Wilbur was studying the web, a pair of whiskers and a sharp face appeared. Slowly Templeton dragged himself across the pen and threw himself down in a corner.

"I'm back," he said in a **husky** voice. "What a night!"

The rat was **swollen** to twice his normal size. His stomach was as big around as a jelly jar.

"What a night! " he repeated, **hoarsely**. "What feasting and **carousing**! A real **gorge**! I must have eaten the remains of thirty lunches. Never have I seen such **leavings**, and everything well-**ripened** and **seasoned** with the passage of time and the heat of the day. Oh, it was rich, my friends, rich! "

"You ought to be ashamed of yourself," said Charlotte in disgust. "It would serve you right if you had an **acute** attack of **indigestion**."

**Comprehension Questions**

1. Describe the egg sac in terms of colour, shape, number of eggs and the properties.
2. What does 'magnum opus' mean?
3. Look at the last sentence of the story.  Look up the meaning of the word 'languishing'.
4. Where did Charlotte put her egg sac?
5. Why do you think one spider lies so many eggs at once?
6. Why do you think humans do not have so many babies at once?
7. What does Charlotte think will happen to her that she will not see her babies?
8. Say why or why not you would like to read the whole story .
9. What are baby geese called?

**Vocabulary**

* *Define each word, put it into one of four categories (noun, adjective, verb or adverb) and, where applicable, note down a synonym or antonym.*
1. Immediately – straight away, now
2. Ceiling – the upper interior surface of a room
3. Previous – occurring before in time or order
4. Shrunk
5. Sac
6. Cocoon – a silky case spun by insects for protection
7. Curiously – in a strange and unusual way
8. Magnum Opus
9. Patience
10. Assure – tell someone something positively to dispel doubts
11. Masterpiece
12. Goslings
13. Languishing
14. Dew
15. Strand – a single think length of something like a thread or wire
16. Dozen – twelve of something
17. Marvel – be filled with wonder or astonishment
18. Miracle – an extraordinary and welcome event that is not easily explicable and is therefore attributed to god or divine agency
19. Husky – low pitched and hoarse
20. Swollen
21. Hoarse – sounding rough and harsh
22. Carousing – to drink alcohol and enjoy yourself in a noisy and lively way
23. Gorge – verb; to eat a large amount greedily
24. Leavings – things that have been left
25. Ripe – (of fruit) ready to eat or harvest
26. Seasoned – having had salt, pepper, herbs or spices added
27. Acute – experienced to a severely unpleasant degree
28. Indigestion

**Homework**

* Revise the vocabulary we have learned today.
* Imagine that you are a news reporter sent to write a report on Charlotte and her web. Write an article using ten of the words in the list above.