



This term the Year Six topic is **Rainforests**
 The topic offers many cross-curricular opportunities and will be closely linked to our core curriculum subjects in Maths, English and Science.

This term's topics

This term we are taking a cross curricular approach to deliver our topic of rainforests. Texts and investigations will be, where possible, contextual to the topic.
 We will be sending a mascot around the world via the Geocaching game as we investigate longitude and latitude.
 Whilst exploring land use in the Amazon we will be looking at food production in the region.

Spring Term in Year Six

Welcome back to a new and exciting term in year 6. This term the children will be studying many new and exciting topics, whilst also revisiting some of the key concepts they have already learnt in order to help them build on this further and broaden their knowledge and understanding.

I hope that the following information is useful in helping you support your child at home with their learning.

Home Learning

The children are expected to read at least five times a week for a minimum of 10 minutes. We encourage parents to ask questions to check their child's understanding and explain their thinking.

There will also be one to two pieces of curriculum based work. These should be completed by pupils within a 45 minute timeframe.

Work will be set on a Friday and should be returned by the following Wednesday.

Please also use the websites listed to help your child consolidate their learning.

Useful Websites



Topic

- http://www.wwf.org.uk/where_we_work/south_america/
- <http://www.rainforest-alliance.org/kids>
- <https://rainforestrescue.sky.com/activities-for-children-and-schools>
- <http://kids.mongabay.com/elementary/206.html>

Maths

- <http://resources.woodlands-junior.kent.sch.uk/maths/>
- http://www.transum.org/Software/SW/Starter_of_the_day/
- <http://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/>
- <http://www.aplusclick.com/>
- <http://www.subtangent.com/maths/mathionaire.php>

Literacy

- <http://www.crickweb.co.uk/ks2literacy.html>
- <http://www.channel4learning.com/sites/bookbox/authors/horowitz/index.htm>

Science

- <http://www.bbc.co.uk/education/subjects/z2pfb9q>
- http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/scienceclips/index_flash.shtml

Others

- <http://www.crickweb.co.uk/Key-Stage-2.html>

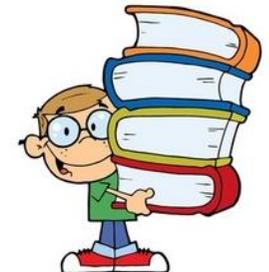
Class visits, visitors and special events

This term we will be welcoming a visitor from a Buddhist temple to the school to help us with our learning in R.E.

We will be visiting the local library to have a look at the wide range of reading material available to us.



R
a
i
n
f
o
r
e
s
t
s



This term, as part of their core subjects of study...

Maths

This term the children will be covering:

Number – rounding for estimation, money problems, the number system and place value

Measurement– time, area and volume of regular and irregular shapes and conversions, both metric and imperial

Shape – properties (and nets) of 2 and 3 dimensional shapes, and rotational symmetry

Fractions – converting fractions, decimals and percentages, equivalent fractions, mixed and improper fractions.

There will be a strong emphasis on problem solving and reasoning. You can help your child by asking them to explain the methods they are using to solve problems in homework tasks. It is also useful to practise multiplication tables with them. There will be weekly challenges using these!

English

The class novel this term is Eva Ibbotson's *Journey to the River Sea*.

The girls in Maia's class told her what to expect when she reached the Brazilian jungle.

"There are huge mosquitoes which bite you. You turn as yellow as a lemon and then you die."

But Maia, an orphan, can't wait to start the long sea voyage. She is to begin a new life with relatives she has never met, a thousand miles up the Amazon River.

And Maia's classmates could never, even in their wildest dreams, imagine the adventures that await her on the shores of the River Sea.

Using this text as a starting point, the children will be writing persuasive texts, non-chronological reports and stories of their own based on different cultures. Later in the term they will be studying Alfred Noyes' *The Highwayman* as part of a unit on narrative poetry.

Science

This term's science topics will focus on Living Things (both plants and animals) and will link closely to our rainforest topic.

In the first half term, we will be studying plant life cycles and seed dispersal, and after the holiday, our topic will be Animals including Humans - their health & circulatory system.

This term there will be a meeting for parents/carers to discuss the national Year 6 (SATs) tests, held in May. This will be an opportunity for you to ask questions and discuss the timetable for the tests, as well as any special arrangements that might need to be made for your child.

A quick reminder - please ensure your child leaves their PE kit in school! If it needs to be washed, please could you send in a spare T-shirt before the old one goes home. Thank you

As part of their wider, topic related studies...

History

History skills this term will be taught under our broad topic of rainforests.

We will be looking at the history of the indigenous tribes of the Amazon and the impact of the settlement of the Europeans.

Computing

The two units studied this term will be:

- We are project managers
- We are interface designers.

We will also cover issues of E-Safety, as we do on a termly basis. This will include behaviour and safety on online communities.

PE

The children will be developing their agility and balance through games, dance and activities involving gymnastic skills.

They will also be taking part in a range of invasion games to promote teamwork and good communication, as well as fitness.

PSHE

This term's SEAL themes are 'Going for Goals'- focused on developing resilience by setting personal challenges and finding ways to achieve them – and 'Good to Be Me'.

RE

This term's focus is on making commitments to others and the promises that Christians make in marriage. In the run-up to Easter, we will look at the Easter story and asking: did Jesus have to die?

Geography

In geography, we will be studying the global positioning of the rainforests (their longitude, latitude and time zones) and their climate. Our study will have a strong focus on bio-diversity and sustainability, as we will look in detail at the impact of consumer choices and deforestation on the rainforests.

Art

The children will be exploring the work of landscape artists, in particular Henri Rousseau, and using his techniques to produce their own landscapes, which will feature in a class rainforest mural.

They will also create a large-scale, 3- dimensional work of an animal.

Design and Technology

This term the children will be using cutting, shaping and finishing skills in their textile (mascots) unit.

For food technology, they will be investigating, designing and cooking savoury meat dishes (burgers).

Music

This term's music themes, taught through Charanga, are 'Classroom Jazz' and 'Fresh Prince of Bel Air' (Hip Hop)

Modern Foreign Languages (French)

As we introduce the school's new foreign language, the children will be learning the vocabulary of parts of the body, colours, dates and sport.