

OUTCOME: The Rainforest
Geography



The main focus for the learning this term is on rainforests! The children will use maps to locate rainforests, focusing on their position in relation to the Equator and Tropics of Cancer and Capricorn. They will learn the climatic zone within which rainforests lie and how this leads to the unique qualities of the rainforest biome.

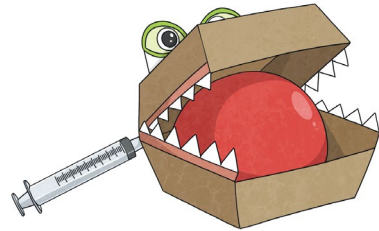
The children will come to understand the different layers of the rainforest habitat and what this means for the rich flora and fauna found here.

The children will also compare forest environments across the globe, focusing in particular upon the Amazon rainforest of South America and the more familiar temperate forests of southern England.

Finally, having learned the rich value of the world's rainforest biome, the children will learn some of the threats that the plants and animals living here face. They will have the opportunity to share their ideas and opinions around this in a debate focused upon the positive and negative impacts of deforestation in the Amazon.

OUTCOME: Rainforest toy
DT

In their DT learning, the children are going to be building upon their prior learning around mechanisms that create movement by investigating pneumatics. They will look at examples of systems that use a pneumatic to create movement. This will help them to design and, ultimately, make their own moving toy using a pneumatic mechanism.



Year 4 – Summer Rainforests

During this half term, the children will be learning all about rainforests! They will learn where the world's rainforest environments are located and what makes them such unique, rich and diverse habitats for a wealth of flora and fauna. The children will take part in a debate around the issue of deforestation and enjoy an enriching visit to Marwell Zoo during which they will take part in a rainforests workshop!

OUTCOME: Photo Gallery
Computing

In Computing, the children will be learning how to edit photographs. They will come to understand that we can use software to change images. They will learn how a photograph is composed and how this can be edited to create different effects (for example by cropping or changing the colour saturation. They will change images to make them suitable for different purposes and audiences as well as developing an understanding that some of the images we see are fake and how and why these might have been created.

OUTCOME: Setting description
Writing

The children's first writing focus this half term will be a setting description of a tropical rainforest. They will practise making considered vocabulary choices including expanded noun phrases and similes. They will also learn to build on our learning around sentence starters by expanding -ing clauses to make a more effective sentence opening. For example, 'Squeezing it's prey tightly with it's strong, muscular body, the boa constrictor dominated over its dinner.'

OUTCOME: Persuasive letter
Writing

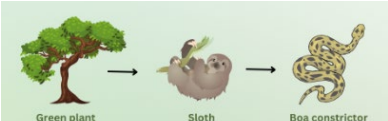
Inspired by our book 'The Great Kapok Tree', the children will take on the challenge of persuading the Woodcutter's character whether he should or should not chop down the rainforest's trees. Together, they will explore their views and opinions using a method called conscience alley and then uses to form a strong argument within a letter. The children will persuade by clearly explaining their points and using emotive language, repetition and rhetorical questions.

OUTCOME: Poem
Writing

The children will learn about significant change that take place in an environment such as the rainforest. They will use this as inspiration for a poem entitled 'Change'. They will learn to use metaphors to compare change and try to define what it is and how it affects us in the natural and manmade world.

OUTCOME: Living things and their habitats
Science

This term, the children will need to think about similarities and differences between living things so that they can use these to group. They will be learning to group living things using a range of different criteria, for example diet, habitat or physical qualities. The children will also learn to use classification keys, answering a range of questions to identify unknown species. Using rainforests as their inspiration, the children will consider how environmental change can pose a significant threat to living things. Changes might include deforestation, climate change or drought. Finally, the children will learn to create food chains, identifying producer, consumer, predator and prey.



Maths

This term, the children will begin by focusing on fractions and decimals. Within fractions the children will look at equivalence, fractions of amounts, counting in tenths and adding and subtracting fractions. During their focus on decimals, the children will learn to recognise tenths and hundredths as well as compare, order and round decimal values.

Pupils should have memorised their multiplication tables up to and including the 12 times table by the end of Year 4. Any support practising tables at home will help build your child's confidence in mental maths, which they will use in many areas of their learning.

PE

Throughout the course of the Summer term the children will be developing their skills in Athletics, Tennis and Cricket. Their Athletics learning will involve running (short and long distance), jumping and throwing skill development. The children will take part in further hand-eye coordination work through mini tennis, incorporating both racket and ball skills and building up to use of nets, shot selection and mini match play. Finally, the children will develop their throwing and catching techniques and batting and fielding in cricket.

Music

In Music this term, the children are going to be using what they have learnt so far about rhythm and pitch to understand the musical stave. They will be able to read and write simple tunes using accurate notation in written form. They will also learn about the five families of instruments (brass, woodwind, strings, percussion and keyboard). In addition to this, the children will explore emotion through music and will be helped to understand, recognise and begin to express emotion through music.

PSHCE

In PSHCE the children will begin with a topic focused around 'Relationships'. They will consider how friendships are made and how they can respond when friendships change or are challenged. They will also consider their emotions when a relationship changes and they are no longer able to see someone who was special to them. After half term, the children's PSHCE learning will focus on how we are all unique and how we change as we grow older. Lastly, they will think about how we feel when changes happen and how they can manage their responses to changes that are beyond their control.

RE

In RE this term the children will be learning about some of the key world religions including Hinduism and Sikhism. They will explore the questions: 'What does it mean to be a Hindu?' and 'What do Sikhs value?'. After half term, they will then consider how different belief systems can come together as they ask 'How can we live together in one world?'.

French

During the first half-term the children will study the book "Une histoire sombre", which brings together many prepositions looked at last term. In pairs, they will create their own mini-version of the book.

In the second half-term other topic will be 'Les monstres'. This will include study of a book, learning vocabulary for parts of the body and creating their own designs of monsters and describing them in French. It will also include 'Guess who' games!

