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Topic

This term our topic will be based on Rainforests and mountains. We will learn about the climate and structure of the rainforest. We will locate on a map the great mountain ranges and rainforests of the world. We will discover the diversity of life within the rainforest and learn about the lives of indigenous peoples, comparing to our own way of living and understanding of the world. We shall continually be exploring the key World issue of deforestation.

Religious Education

We will continue to lead enquiry based RE lessons, with the children exploring answers to some key questions. Our learning will look at Christianity, Sikhism and the world view, Humanism.

In the first half term we will find answers to the question ‘What do we mean by truth’ and in the second half term, we shall discuss ‘What kind of world should we live in?’ looking at ideas of stewardship, fairness, equality and asking why God allows some things to happen.

French

We will continue to look at some basic French and begin an all about me project book.

PSHCE

Looking after the environment – Deforestation, the welfare of animals and humans, global challenges.

Changes in our bodies.

**Maple Class**

**Years 3 / 4**

**Spring Term 2021**

**Rainforests**

**Mr. Gachowicz / Miss. Claxton**

Art/DT

We will look at the art of artist Henri Rousseau and attempt a whole class collage, using different materials, looking in detail at colour. We will use our sketch books and make detailed observations of leaves.

In Design Technology we will create 3D insects inspired by the vast array of insect life found in the rainforest.

Music

We will use the internet to look at tropical rainforest soundscapes. What noises can we hear? We will work in small groups to create our own rainforest soundscape using percussion instruments and body percussion. We will use these soundscapes for reflection and relaxation.

Computing

We will use the computers to research information on the rainforests and look at issues of deforestation. We will look at digital maps to discover the location of rainforests and mountain ranges.

English

This term we will be linking our writing to our topic:

* Persuasive writing – looking at the language and structural features of different persuasive texts
* Writing persuasive letters linked to deforestation and the book ‘The Great Kapok Tree’
* Rhyming poetry based on a rainforest animal
* Writing fictional narratives based on ‘Buddy’s Rainforest Rescue’

We will continue to have weekly SPAG sessions learning the year 3 and 4 objectives, spellings including spelling rules and words from the national curriculum spelling list and guided reading sessions.

Science

In Maple class we shall be looking at electricity.

We will identify items which run on electricity and which items do not. We shall discover ways in which electricity is generated.

The children will learn the symbols for drawing circuits and will design circuits before testing them out and making predictions as to what might happen if another bulb was added to the circuit or another cell?

We shall identify circuits which work and which do not work and rectify these problems.

We will learn what are conductors and insulators and carry out an investigation as to what makes the most suitable conductor and insulator.

Maths

Year 3

We will be looking at fractions and counting up and down in tenths, recognising and writing fractions of amounts using unit and non-unit fractions, looking at equivalent fractions and adding and subtracting fractions with the same denominator.

Year 4

We will build on the children’s knowledge of fractions and introduce decimals, looking at equivalent fractions, counting up and down in hundredths, recognising and writing decimal equivalents and rounding decimals to the nearest whole number.