

The Rainforest



BIG QUESTION...

*What makes a rainforest a rainforest
and how can we look after them?*

Are you ready for a ramble through the rainforest?

Through this topic, we will be exploring the depths of the rainforest floor to the top of the canopy layer to find out about rainforest animal habitats and the reasons for rainforest deforestation in many continents of the world.

Make sure you pack your backpacks and a hooded jacket as in this adventure, you could get wet!



In this half term, you will...

Reading	We really value continuing to have dedicated story time throughout Year 2, often twice a day. We have a wide range of enriching, diverse texts which are shared across the year group, where the teachers discuss key themes and vocabulary with the children whilst also developing their likes and opinions. In addition, we ensure there is a high focus on developing reading for pleasure with lots of opportunity for independent reading in the classrooms. The children will: • Revise phonic sounds in line with our new phonics scheme, Little Wandle Letters and Sounds. They will also begin to link the decoding of reading with encoding of spelling through more investigations. • Read books matched to the children's individual phonetic ability, focusing on decoding, prosody, and comprehension. • Revise Year 1 Common Exception Words and practise reading Year 2 Common Exception Words and high frequency words (<i>These are listed in your child's Reading Record</i>). • Read and share a range of stories linked to our Rainforest topic. • Continue to develop a love of reading during Golden Time where the children can choose to read anything they like from comics, children's newspapers, stories, non-fiction texts.
Writing	• Learn and write facts about our class animal. • Retell stories based on our topic of 'The Rainforest.' • Identify word classes – nouns, adjectives, verbs and adverbs. • Write a description about the rainforest using adjectives and adverbs. • Write a poem about the rainforest using adjectives, verbs and adverbs. • Embed letter formation and appropriate sizing in line with our letter families; • Begin to explore the pre-cursive script for children who are ready to. • Build stamina for writing by writing every day, either in a teacher led task or during creative writing opportunities. • Write instructions for making a 'Jungle trekker' salad. • Begin to use a range of conjunctions in our writing (and, but, so, because) <u>Spelling</u> • Revise Year 1 Common Exception Words and begin to learn our Year 2 Common Exception Words. • Learn to spell words containing endings -ge and -dge • Learn to spell words beginning with kn- and gn- • Spell words with 'c' making a 's' sound (e.g. city, ice, circle) • Spell words ending in -el, -le, -al
Mathematics	The children's learning will focus on number this half term, initially focusing on place value before moving on to addition and subtraction, in line with the White Rose scheme of learning. Children will learn to: • Read and write numbers to 100. • Partition 2-digit numbers into tens and ones • Compare numbers to 100 using the greater than (>) and less than (<) symbols • Practise counting in 2s, 5s and 10s • Revise our number bonds to 10 and 20 and begin to write our bonds to 100 • Find 10 more and 10 less than a number • Practise drawing jottings to solve addition equations • Practise drawing jottings to solve subtraction equations
Science	Our Science learning this half term will focus on 'Animals and their Habitats.' Children will learn to: • Identify and compare things that are living, non-living and were once alive. • Explain what a habitat is. • Explore the suitability of different habitats and explain which animals live in them and why. • Explore and describe a micro habitat and discover which plants and animals can be found there • Investigate which habitats are most suitable for the insects in our playground. • Understand which animals can be found in a rainforest habitat and which layer of the rainforest they can be found in and why.

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Art and Design	Children will learn to: • Practise drawing and painting to create a piece of art on our class animal. • Use clay to sculpt our class animals. • Learn about the work of Henri Rousseau. • Create a piece of rainforest artwork in the style of Henri Rousseau. • Develop drawing focusing on line, shape, form and space. • Mix primary colours and represent settings using colour.
Design & Technology	Children will learn to: • Design and create a healthy meal for a 'Jungle trekker' using ingredients that they can forage from the rainforest. • Evaluate their 'Jungle trekkers salad' and suggest ways that this could be improved. • Learn how to chop, peel and grate food safely.
Computing	Our Computing learning this half term will focus on 'Information Technology around us.' Children will learn to: • Recognise the uses and features of IT. • Identify uses of IT in school. • Identify IT beyond school. • Explain how IT helps us. • Learn how to use IT safely. • Recognise that choices are made when using IT.
Geography	Our Geography learning this half term will focus on 'The Rainforest.' Children will learn to: • Name and locate the seven continents of the world, using children's atlases. • Locate the rainforests of the world using an children's atlases. • Explore the physical features of tropical rainforests. • Discover what a rainforest provides. • Explore who and what lives in a rainforest and the dangers that they face (e.g. deforestation).
Music	Our 'Music' learning this half term will focus on 'West African call and response' with the theme 'Animals.' This is in line with the Kapow Scheme of Learning. Children will learn to: • Use tempo, dynamics and timbre in their piece. • Play in time with their group. • Use instruments appropriately. • Successfully sing back the melody line in time and at the correct pitch. • Play either a call and/or response role in time with another pupil. • Perform their composition.
P.S.H.E	This half-term, our P.S.H.E topic is 'Being Me in My World' in line with the Jigsaw scheme of learning. Children will learn to: • Identify our hopes and fears for the year • Understand our rights and responsibilities • Listen to others and contribute ideas about rewards and consequences • Understand that following class rules can help us and others to learn
Physical Education	Our P.E. learning on Wednesdays this half term will focus on 'Dance.' Children will learn to: • Remember, repeat and link actions and explore space and simple movement patterns. • Create actions and accurately copy other's actions. • Copy, remember and repeat actions and use facial expressions to show different characters. • Perform in unison and create interesting shapes with a partner. • Mirror a partner and work with a partner to create ideas. • Create actions in response to a stimulus and copy and repeat actions. • Copy, create and perform actions in response to the stimulus and use dynamics in the performance. • Create a short dance with a partner showing changes in speed. Our PE learning on Thursdays this half term will focus on swimming, where children will learn to: • Swim with confidence over a distance of 25 metres

	• Use a range of strokes effectively. • Perform safe self-rescue in water-based situations.
Religious Education	Children will learn to: • Discuss the signs and symbols that we see in everyday life. • Illustrate the different symbols that we see in religions. • Explore what Christian and Muslim symbols represent.
ALZ	• The ALZ or Active Learning Zone is a separate area to the classrooms run by a dedicated member of staff, where a group from each class access the provision each session. Children are able to explore their learning in an active and practical manner and are set challenges and tasks which extend their creativity and problem-solving skills. The teacher can use these opportunities to observe learning and make assessments.

TOP 5 WORDS to know by the end of this topic:

5

endangered

habitat

deforestation

equator

canopy

Great books you could read:

