

Science:

'Living Things and Their Habitats'.

We will be finding out about the process of pollination in plants and the role of the different parts of a flower. We will also look at the life cycles of a variety of different plants (flowering and non-flowering) and animals. Finally, we will be thinking about the adaptations which allow certain animals and plants to thrive within a rainforest environment.

Art:

Some of our art sessions this half term will be linked to botanical drawing within our science topic. We will also be experimenting with using paint and/or pastels to create some rainforest inspired work.

Geography:

We will be locating the tropical rainforests using atlases and looking at how the Earth is split into regions according to climatic zones. We will then look specifically at the climate of the rainforests. Our journey will then take us to the different layers of the rainforest, finding out about the plants and animals who live within each layer. We will also be finding out about both the physical and human geography of Brazil and Rio de Janeiro.

English:

This half term, we will be finding out about the features of both formal and informal letters before writing our own informal letter based on our class text. We will also be writing diary entries and working on our debating skills.

What Makes Rainforests Remarkable?

Texts:

- Kensuke's Kingdom by Michael Morpurgo.
- Journey to the River Sea by Eva Ibbotson.
- The Real Brazil by Daniela da Sousa

History:

Although this topic does not have a history focus, our guided reading sessions using 'Journey to the River Sea' will look at the Portuguese Empire and colonialism and the impact of this on Brazil today.

Schools of Sanctuary:

This half term we will be discussing the colonialization of Brazil and learning about refugee migration in a rainforest by focusing on Ak' Tenamit in Guatemala.



Maths:

We will be reading, writing, ordering and comparing numbers to 1,000,000 and rounding to the nearest 10, 100, 1,000 and 10,000.

We will also be adding and subtracting whole numbers with more than 4 digits using formal written methods through a mixture of reasoning and problem-solving activities.

RE:

'Is believing in God reasonable?'

We are going to be evaluating and considering the ways in which different philosophers have argued for the existence of God, before finding out about the Humanist approach to God. This will lead to a presentation of these ideas before reflecting on our own thoughts.

Modern Languages:

We will learning about the origin of different languages, communication through body language, as well as what it means to be multilingual!

RSHE:

We will be exploring feelings, relationships, rights, responsibilities, and how to ask for help in various situations through a topic called 'Tricky Friends'.

Physical Education:

This half term we will be working on the key skills of co-ordination and agility. We will work to identify specific parts of performance to work on, understand ways (criteria) to judge performance and use awareness of space and others to make good decisions.

Optional Homework Activities:

Animal Creation: combine the features of two animals from the rainforest to create your own new animal. Make a fictional fact file for it. What name would you give it? Which features did you choose and why?

Story Writing: create a story about the life of a child who survives in the rainforest. How did they get there? Are there other tribes there? What will they see? What adventures do they have?

Word search or Crossword: create a word search and / or crossword using at least 12 rainforest keywords.

Coordinates: x marks the spot! Make a treasure map within the rainforest, plotting coordinates for an area where you may find animals.

Top Trumps: create a set of Top Trump Rainforest Animals cards using books or the internet to research their characteristics.

