

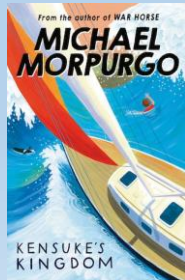
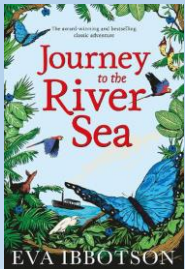
## English

Through some of the texts mentioned below, we will be exploring our rainforest topic. This half term, we will be finding out about the features of both formal and informal letters and writing a purposeful letter to stop deforestation. This will mean that pupils will be learning to use persuasive language effectively. We will also be writing descriptive settings and building on our understanding of ambitious vocabulary.

## Texts:

Non-fiction texts: The Real Brazil by Daniela da Sousa.

Fiction texts: Journey to the River Sea by Eva Ibbotson & Kensuke's Kingdom by Michael Morpurgo.



## **What makes rainforests remarkable?**

### 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. This will include physical and human geography.

### Art

Our art sessions this half term will be linked to botanical drawings inspired by our rainforest topic. Pupils will have a chance to experiment with a variety of mediums to create art.

### 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. Their knowledge of times tables will be essential for our topic so will be incorporated into lessons.

### 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. This will include adaptations which allow certain animals and plants to thrive in their environment.

### PSHE

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

### Religion and worldviews

Our question for the half term 'Is believing in God reasonable?' We are going to explore the ways in which different philosophers have argued for the existence of God, before finding out about the Humanist approach to God.

### Music

We will examine how to read music manuscript. We will apply this skill when playing the keyboards in sessions with Mr Taylor.

### School of Sanctuary

We will discuss the displacement that can be caused by deforestation and the effect of fairtrade on the lives of communities.

### 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.

### DT

In DT, we will initially learn about the design process; design, make and evaluate. We will explore a range of techniques to support and stabilise different structures.

### Modern Languages

We will be recapping a variety of greetings in French and adding in year-group related adjectives. Some of our lessons will explore what it means to be multilingual!

Vocabulary	Meaning
Deforestation	The action of clearing a wide area of trees by cutting them down (felling)
Logging	The activity of felling trees, as well as cutting and preparing the timber.
Cattle ranching	An area of land used to raise livestock (for example, cattle, chicken, and sheep)
Ecosystem	A biological community of interacting organisms (animals, insects, birds, bacteria) and their physical environment
Indigenous people	People who originated naturally from a particular place. These people may have had no contact with the outside, modern world.
Fairtrade	An arrangement to help those living and working in third-world countries to be paid a fair wage for their hard work.
Habitat	Where a living thing (animal or plant) lives.

### Optional Home 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? Make sure you draw your new animal too!

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? Add illustrations or turn it into a graphic novel!

Wordsearch or crossword: create a word search and/or crossword using at least 12 rainforest keywords that we have been looking at in class. Test out someone at home and see if they can solve it!

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.

### ClassDojo:

We love to see what children and families have been doing at home!

Please send us pictures or videos through ClassDojo and we will make sure that these are celebrated in class and rewarded with team points or certificates.

Likewise, if children have any notable achievements or events outside of school (swimming medals, football tournaments etc), we love to hear about these too!

### Volunteering in School

With the school environment now unrestricted by Covid guidance and legislation, we are looking to have lots of volunteers within school to help support and enhance our learning. This could be as a regular slot to help with spelling, reading or maths. Or it might be that you have a particular occupation/skill that you think would be interesting or relevant to our learning.

Please contact your child's teacher if you're interested in volunteering!