

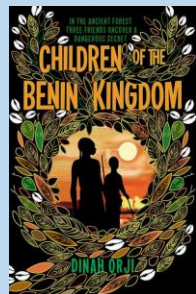
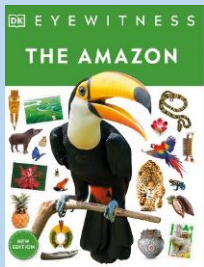
English

Through some of the texts mentioned below, we will be exploring our rainforest topic. This half term, we are writing a journalistic article discussing deforestation in Benin, as well as writing a formal letter to the Sainsbury Centre to discuss the artefacts they have from the Benin Kingdom and whether they should have them or not. This will mean that pupils will be learning to use persuasive language effectively. We will be building our bank of ambitious vocabulary too.

Texts:

Non-fiction texts: The Amazon (DK Eyewitness)

Fiction texts: Children of the Benin Kingdom by Dinah Orji & The Great Kapok Tree by .



What makes rainforests remarkable?

History

Using our knowledge of the rainforest from Autumn 1, we will be looking at the history of the Benin Kingdom which is now known as Oba, Nigeria. from its beginnings in the 900's in the rainforest of West Africa to its eventual demise in 1897, when it was invaded by Britain and made a part of the British Empire. We will look at important people and the role of slavery in a sensitive manner.

Art

We will learn about the symbolism of animals in the Kingdom of Benin, and make a tile using salt dough, inspired by the Benin Bronzes using sculpting skills.

Maths

We will be exploring formal methods for multiplying and dividing, as well as looking in detail at factors and common multiples. This will include column method and also grid method too. Lessons will explore measurement – linked to fairtrade products, which leads onto looking at statistics. It is really important that pupils are confident in their times tables to apply these to different mathematical concepts.

Science

We will be learning about forces that are present in our world through a variety of different investigations and tests.

We will look at friction, air resistance, and buoyancy, as well as gravity, where we will use Newton metres to measure the force present in different objects.

PSHE

We will be exploring caring relationships, with a link towards online relationships and how to keep ourselves safe when using the internet.

Religion and worldviews

Our question for the half term 'What can we learn about the world from great philosophers?' We are going to explore the views of philosophers and think about how this links to religion.

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 exploring the origin of words including those that come from Latin and Greek which we now use and know today.

Key Vocabulary

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)
Oba	The chief (leader) of a local area in Nigeria.
kingdom	A country, state or territory ruled by a king or a queen.
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:

Model of the Benin Kingdom: use what you know from the classroom and from research to create a model or drawing of what a part of the Benin Kingdom used to look like. It could be made from items that are sustainable to link to our work on the rainforests.

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

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 are interested in volunteering!