

Rainforests

YEAR 6

Rationale: In the Autumn Term, Year 6 will learn where rainforests are distributed around the world and specifically about the Amazon rainforest. They will investigate the physical and biological features and how these cause this type of ecosystem to be developed. Children will use their skills to research information and interpret data to investigate when and why this happens. The children will learn about the different layers within the rainforest, the animals and plants who habit there and discover how animals adapt to their habitat in order to survive. This provides the stimulus for writing a non-chronological report about their animal **and a narrative story about a unique rainforest animal which has been 'discovered'**. They will then go on to learn about the Madi Gras festival. In addition, they will learn about the rainforest tribes and how they use the land and resources in everyday life. They will study the rituals children undertake as part of their rites of passage. Deforestation and the effect on the inhabitants of the rainforest will be investigated. By the end of the topic children should know about and understand the value of the rainforest ecosystem and its inhabitants on our society.

Hook: On the first day of term, children will have an exciting 'hands on' experience meeting and learning about some of the animals and arachnids which can be found in rainforests around the world. Children will visit Cadbury World after half term to learn about chocolate.

DT

Children will make their own rainforest animal using clay and create festival masks for the festival parade.

Art

Create observational drawings of rainforest plants such as orchids and 'birds of paradise' using sketching and pencil skills.

Music & PE: children will learn how to dance to Samba and learn about the instruments associated with Samba music.

RE: Children will learn about the religions which are practiced in South America and make comparisons with other major religions and festivals which take place around the world.

English

Children will write a non-chronological report about the rain forest animal they have created in IT and DT using knowledge researched and learned. They will also use this as the basis for a narrative adventure story about a unique **rainforest animal which has been 'discovered'**. The non-chronological reports will be combined to create **A Rainforest Animal Encyclopaedia** for the school library.

In the second half of the topic the after investigating how chocolate is made and the effects of deforestation, children will write an explanation and discussion text.

PSHE: Children will learn about the rites of passage rituals that rainforest children undertake and the effects of deforestation on the rainforest tribes.

IT: Children will create a virtual rainforest animal using switcher zoo and use research skills to gather content.

History

Children will learn about the origins of the rainforest and how this and its inhabitants have changed over time.

Geography

Children will be able to locate the major rainforests around the world and state the countries where they are situated. They will learn about rainforest foods and Cocoa, the weather and climate. They will compare rainfall and temperatures in London and Manaus and use this information to plot line graphs.

Home Learning:

Children will create a rainforest setting and write a supporting explanation of the features.

Science: Children learn about how living things have changed over time and how some characteristics are inherited. They will learn how to describe and classify plants and animals. They will be able to provide examples of how animals and plants are adapted to suit their environment in different ways and can explain that adaption may lead to evolution.

OUTCOME:

Children will host their own 'Rainforest Festival' showcasing the creative and writing projects they have created.