



Springdale First School – Medium Term

Monkey Business!



This half term is a very exciting half term for Year Four as we pack our bags and head off to South America! We have heard that the Rainforests are in trouble and that certain living creatures are losing their habitats due to deforestation. We are going to investigate what a healthy rainforest should look like by learning about the different vegetation layers before discovering which fascinating creatures live in this habitat. Finally we will begin to look at the impact that deforestation is having on certain areas of the Amazon Rainforest. Through a range of cross-curricular activities, the children will learn about the position of South America on a map; the importance of latitude, longitude, the Equator and the Northern and Southern Hemispheres. They will also learn about different climate zones, vegetation belts and different living organisms.

NATIONAL CURRICULUM:

Sparkly starter: Classroom's turned into tropical rainforests.

Fab Finish: possible link with Monkey World – TBC.

Enquiry Question: *Where will all of the orangutans live if the rainforests are gone?*

English

Mathematics

Text	SPAG Focus	Spelling focus	Writing focus	Specific
The Great Kapok Tree (Amazon rainforest topic)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Indicates direct speech using inverted commas and other punctuation. E.g. commas to separate clauses. - Using conjunctions, adverbs and prepositions to express time and cause - Determiners - Avoid repetition by using appropriate pronouns. - Apostrophes used to mark singular and plural possessive. - Use standard English forms (We were rather than we was etc). - Link clauses with a range of appropriate subordinating and coordinating conjunctions throughout writing. - Punctuation is accurate. 	Word endings: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Words with endings sounding like /tʃə/ (-ture). - Words ending in er - Word endings which sound like /ʒən/ (-sion) 	Rainforest (wk1) Grammar revision for three days (Wk 2) Narrative – retell Great Kapok tree (description of rainforest) (wk3) Balanced argument (wk4) letter persuading tree company not to cut down forest about deforestation. (wk5) Diary entry from Woodcutter's perspective (wk 6) Rainforest Poetry	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Recall multiplication and division facts for multiplication tables up to 12 × 12. - Use place value, known and derived facts to multiply and divide mentally, including multiplying and dividing by 1. - Multiply together three numbers. - Recognise and use factor pairs and commutativity in mental calculations. - Multiply two-digit numbers and three-digit numbers by a one digit number using formal written methods. - Solve problems involving multiplying and adding.

Topic objectives (Focus Subjects)

Activities to meet objectives

<p>Geography:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Identify the position and significance of latitude, longitude, Equator, Northern Hemisphere, Southern Hemisphere, the Tropics of Cancer and Capricorn, Arctic and Antarctic Circle, the Prime/Greenwich Meridian and time zones (including day and night) - Understand geographical similarities and differences through the study of human and physical geography of a region of the United Kingdom, a region in a European country, and a region within North or South America. - Physical geography, including: climate zones, biomes and vegetation belts, rivers, mountains, volcanoes and earthquakes, and the water cycle 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The children will be flying to South America to become Geography experts by using coordinates to locate places around the world. They will become familiar with the concept of time zones by exploring the times of different places.
<p>Science: Living things and their habitats:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grouping living things. • Classifying Vertebrates

- Recognise that living things can be grouped in a variety of ways
- Explore and use classification keys to help group, identify and name a variety of living things in their local and wider environment
- Recognise that environments can change and that this can sometimes pose dangers to living things.

- Invertebrate Hunt around school
- Using classification keys
- Investigating environmental changes in the local environment and in the rainforest.

Other curriculum areas

- Art – our main focus for this topic is DT however we will be using a range of different art materials to create our final DT design.

- PSHCE –

- DT – we will be designing our very own CAMs model this half term. The children will look at models that already work before designing their own. They will then use tools to make their own moving Rainforest creatures before tweaking their final products and writing a final evaluation of its effectiveness.

- Computing – Mrs Washbrook will continue to take the children for computing in smaller groups of 20. The children will be using a range of research skills as well as using different multimedia.

- Music – we will be exploring singing in different languages this half term as well as listening to music originating from South America.

- Outdoor PE – we will be focusing on competitive games this half term.

- R.E. – During our last mini topic before half term, the children explored the meaning of Christmas for Christians and also which part of the Nativity Story is the most significant for a Christian person.

- Gymnastics – indoor PE sessions will be taken by Mrs Hurlstone in smaller groups of 20.

HOW CAN YOU HELP?

- Please practise each week's spellings and any homework that is sent home.

- We hope you will find the following online maths games useful. Please see also keep practicing the BIG maths facts each week. Please look in your child's homework book to see which fun challenge they are on and which maths skills to practice with your child.

- Beatbox timestables: <https://www.nationwideeducation.co.uk/www/flash/bsobso-flash/index.html>

- Daily 10, ten quick fire mental maths questions - <https://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/daily10>

- Multiples - <https://www.topmarks.co.uk/times-tables/coconut-multiples>

- Hit the button timed times table game - <https://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/hit-the-button>

- Links to fun times table songs that are sang over pop hits like the cup song or uptown funk (Mr DeMaio's timestable songs)

Please watch these with your child, YouTube must be supervised:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9XzfQUXqiYY&list=PLb7Q5jism9eh_fdDPQmVpyp4XRu-raUbHc

