



Why do the Rainforests matter to us all?

Team Parsons

Today's learners, Tomorrow's leaders

Mrs Parsons / Ms Sharples

Team Illingworth

Willing to learn and be independent

Miss Illingworth

WOW Experience: Tuesday 30th April

The children will have an opportunity to visit Chester Zoo. This educational visit makes clear links with our theme and our study of Animals and Habitats in Science. The children will explore different species of animals, more specifically those from South America and the Amazon Rainforest.

Week 1 and 2 (Geography)

What makes a tropical rainforest?

As Geographers, the children will be Introduced to the concept of a biome - a large region of earth that has a certain climate. We will then use world map to locate different biomes, focusing in on the tropical rainforest and forests. We will discuss the location of the tropical rainforests and talk about reasons for this.

We will also explore the different layers of the rainforest – the emergent layer, the canopy layer, the understory layer and the forest floor layer, identifying features of each. This will link to our understanding of habitats and how animals adapt to these.

Week 3 and 4 (Science)

What lives in a tropical rainforest?

As Scientists, we will look more closely at the wildlife found within the Amazon rainforest and create our own classification keys to group, identify and name living things. We will research different habitats and make comparisons. We will apply this to our own setting and explore the animals and habitats in our local environment. This will allow us to explore how habitats and environments can change over time due to different factors. We will also be exploring food chains and use key vocabulary to identify the different components: producer, prey, consumer and predator.

Week 5 and 6 (ART)

How can collaging recreate the layers of the rainforest?

As Artists, we will appraise and study the art of Henry Rousseau. We will discuss the strengths and weaknesses of different pieces of artwork which will enable us to develop our evaluation skills.

We develop our drawing skills by sketching a range of plants and animals from the rainforest considering the effects of scale and proportion.

We will then take inspiration from Henry Rousseau and create our own original piece using mixed media. We will use overlapping and layering techniques to create a 3D collage using different materials to create foregrounds and backgrounds. We will be working collaboratively to create a Year 4 installation to be displayed in the school corridor.

We will also explore how digital art can be created using different brush styles.

Maths

As **Mathematicians**, the children will embed their prior learning of the 4 formal methods of calculation: addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division.

We will develop our understanding of decimals by making a whole with tenths and hundredths, partitioning decimals in different ways, comparing and ordering decimals and rounding decimals to the nearest whole number. We will learn to represent halves and quarters as decimals.

We will then apply this to the concept of money writing amounts using decimals, converting amounts between pounds and pence. We will solve money problems involving estimation and different calculations.

We will then develop our understanding of time reading the 24-hour clock to the nearest minute, converting between analogue and digital times. We will understand the relationship between units of time and use this to solve time problems including calculating intervals.

English: Our next focus text is 'The Vanishing Rainforest'

As **Readers and Writers**, the children will be using this text to develop inference skills to understand a character's feelings, actions and motives. To demonstrate a deeper understanding of the text, we are writing diary entries from different stages of the text which include a range of writing features that have been previously taught (direct speech, fronted adverbials, appropriate and sophisticated word choice, expanded noun phrases etc).

We will then apply our knowledge of the text to a different genre – letter writing, to write a Letter from Jane the ecologist to the loggers persuading them not to continue with their work of destroying the rainforest.

We will then explore a range of various non-fiction books on the rainforest and collect a range of facts to allow us to create an information leaflet on what you can find in the Amazon Rainforest.

R.E. Why are Gurus at the heart of Sikh belief and practice?

The children will explore the concept of 'guru' in Sikhism as an introduction to Sikh religious belief and practice. We will link the significance of Sikh scripture, the Guru Granth Sahib, to the importance of the lineage of the ten Sikh gurus. The children will be able to explain and give reasons for Sikh practices and values.

P.E:

This will take place on Monday morning for both classes. We will continue to develop our gymnastic skills exploring stretches, balances and jumps and mounts on and off a range of different equipment.

French

As **Linguists**, the children will begin to describe themselves in French. We will revise eye and hair colours and begin to name and describe body parts. They will play a range of games and practice talking with each other.

Learning for Life

PSHE: How can we manage our feelings?

As **Citizens**, the children will explore how everyday things can affect feelings, how these feelings change over time and how they can be experienced at different levels of intensity. We will discuss the importance of expressing feelings and how they can be expressed in different ways. We will explore how to respond proportionately to, and manage, feelings in different circumstances e.g. loss grief and change and discuss how to access advice and support to help us manage our own or others' feelings.

E-Safety: How do I stay healthy when using technology?

As **Digital citizens**, the children will embed the concept of negative and positive online experiences and develop strategies to help them manage their on and offline activities in a healthy way.

Sports Update

Over the last term, we have had several sporting events which children from across school have taken part in:

Cross Country

Firstly, we had a group of our Year 6 cross country runners qualify and run in the West Yorkshire finals.

Secondly, our Key Stage 2 Cross Country Teams also took part in two separate races where the year 5/6 girls came 3rd and 2nd as well as our year 5/6 boys winning their final race of the year.

Overall, this leaves our year 5/6 teams finishing in second place in their respective league tables with a number of children finishing in the Top 10 for their age group. A special mention needs to go to Blake, in year 6, who finished 1st overall in the year 5/6 league this year.

This year has been our highest turn out and best performing cross country year ever and we are so proud of every member of team Cottingley who has taken part.

Kurling

We had a team of children from The Maples who took part in an indoor kurling competition against other schools. They performed extremely well especially as this was a new sport for most of them.

Swimming

We had a team of year 6 swimmers who took part in an aquasplash showcase and completed several events which were a lot of fun and provided them with an opportunity to show off their excellent swimming skills.

Finally, our house team competitions are really hotting up, after last half term's Gymnastics events there are only a few points between all four teams. Everybody will be looking to earn valuable points in the build up to the end of the year!