

Why Do We Need Rainforests?

Year 3/4 Summer Term

As **WRITERS** we will be looking at rainforest poetry by Paul Hess. We will investigate the rhyme in these poems, learn them and then perform them to each other. After this we will go on to study 'The Shaman's Apprentice' by Lynne Cherry. This will form the basis of our descriptive stories set in the rainforest. We will also be looking at 'The Great Kapok Tree' which conveys important messages about de-forestation and ensuring we look after our environment. This will then lead onto persuasive pieces of writing which we will be creating to encourage people to think carefully about how they can help protect the rainforests.

As **READERS** we will be reading 'The Iron Man' by Ted Hughes. During these sessions, we will be clarifying new words, making predictions and summarising what we have read. We will be asking and answering questions about what we are reading. We will be completing our Reading Journals at home, aiming to read a minimum of 3 times a week.

In **P.E** we will be developing our teamwork skills within games and tournaments involving rounders. We will also be preparing for the whole school sports day by developing our athletics skills.

As **ARTISTS** we will be studying and replicating the work of Henri Rousseau. We will be using our sketch books and sketching pencils to carefully and accurately draw plants and animals that can be found in the rainforest. After that we will be using a range of paints to illustrate these rainforest scenes.



As **MUSICIANS** we will be listening to the sounds of the rainforest and mimicking this through music. We will make our own musical instruments and then create a journey through the rainforest. We will create a score for our musical piece and then perform our piece to others. Year 4 will also be having weekly Violin lessons on a Tuesday.

As **SCIENTISTS** we will be investigating plants. While dissecting a flower, we will identify and describe the functions of different parts of flowering plants including root, stem, leaves and flower. As our Science experiment for the half term we will be planting seeds and understanding what environment they need to grow in. We will learn how water is transported in a plant and learn the life cycle of a flowering plant. After half term, we will be looking at food chains of the rainforest and using classification keys to sort animals.

In **R.E** Year 3 will be learning about 'Encounters' looking at different faith stories and Year 4 will be learning about 'Our World' and the creation of the world. In **PSHCE** we will be continuing our work on healthy eating and relationships through the Jigsaw scheme.

In **Geography** we will be developing our locational knowledge by exploring where the rainforests are located and how they are situated in relation to the equator and hemisphere. We will then be using map and atlas skills to compare and contrast the location of the rainforests in comparison to our location within the UK. We will also be learning about how the location of the rainforests affect the climate and how it is so different to where we live. We will also be exploring and learning about the human and physical features of the rainforests. This will involve researching climate zones, biomes, vegetation belts, types of settlement and land use, trade links, and much more!

As **MATHEMATICIANS** we will be developing our geometry skills through the exploration of 2D and 3D shapes and position and direction work. We will also be learning about Fractions. We will be linking some of our work within maths to our 'Rainforests' topic by creating charts and graphs which record the amount of rainfall.

In **COMPUTING** we will be conducting independent research projects to develop our understanding of the rainforest. We will be publishing and editing our work on an internet blogging site. We will explore how search engines filter results so that our blog

In **FRENCH** will be continuing with the unit 'Moi'. The children will learn how to say basic phrases about themselves in French such as their name, age and numbers to 12.