

Year 4

Term – Spring 1

Science Physics - Sound

This year we have increased our learning through investigation. Each half term we have a concluding investigation question that we try to solve based on what we have learnt during the half term. Our question this term is:

What is the best way to control the volume and pitch of a loud instrument?

In order to answer this question they will be learning: That sound is made by having something vibrate. That sound waves travel in a straight line from the source through solid, liquids and gases. Pitch is caused by the frequency of vibration whilst volume is changed through changing the force of vibration. Volume reduces over distance and through being muffled. The pitch and volume of sound can be measured with data loggers.

This term we will be learning about...

The Amazon



Key Information

Attached to this newsletter is a copy of our fact organiser for the year 4 Geography topic about the Amazon. It shows, in detail, the questions the children are going to be investigating and learning about. There are links to helpful websites about the topic which you can use to support your child's learning about the topic. There is also a list of the key vocabulary your children should be able to use to explain their thinking.

We hope you find this helpful.

PSHE

This term is PSHE, Year 4 will be learning about safety and consent. They will discuss personal space, boundaries and how to gain consent by asking somebody if they want something to happen. They will also learn about how to seek support from a trusted person if they ever feel uncomfortable or scared.

English

This half term, pupils will be reading and exploring 'The Explorer' by Katherine Rundell and 'Rainforest' by Liz Gogerly and Rob Hunt in class. We will write a non chronological report, a playscript and poetry. During lessons, Year 4 children will work to deepen their vocabulary choices, punctuation use and sentence length. In reading, pupils will explore an author's viewpoint by considering the words that the author has chosen to use and the impact this may have on the reader.

RE

In RE, we have incorporated geographical, historical and RE learning alongside each other. It makes useful links with the concept of a 'region' and a 'local area' which pupils connections to places of worship, we will be looking at places of worship in Plaistow and the impact they have on their users.

Mathematics

This half term, children will develop their understanding of multiplication and division, area, and fractions. Children will continue to practise their problem solving skills in all areas of maths as well as focusing on using key vocabulary accurately to help children to explain their understanding. At the end of Year 4, children are expected to know their multiplication facts up to 12x12 so this half term we will be practising all of our times tables frequently.

Computing

In computing, Year 4 will be creating programs involves planning, modifying, and testing commands to create shapes and patterns. This unit looks at repetition and loops within programming. Pupils will create programs by planning, modifying, and testing commands to create shapes and patterns. They will use Logo, a text-based programming language.

You might like to join in with our learning at home by:

Reading

- **Read everyday and record this in the reading record - try a range of text types.**

Watching

<https://www.dkfindout.com/uk/animals-and-nature/habitats-and-ecosystems/amazon-rainforest/>
<http://www.safetynetkids.org.uk/personal-safety/staying-safe-online/>

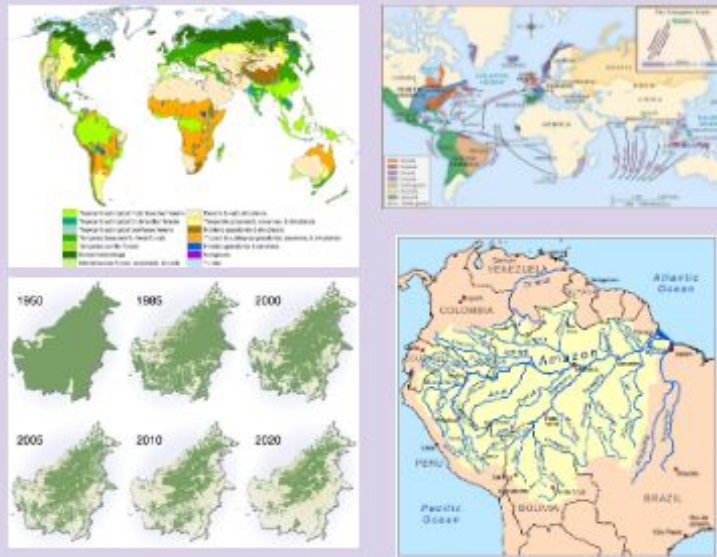
Doing

- **Revise times table facts up to 12x12- log into TT Rockstars every week.**
- **Research the animals and plants that live in the Amazon.**

Year 4 - Geography. Final Enquiry: Why should we care about what happens to the Amazon?

Theme	Learning Goal	Key Questions to be asked	Answers
	Unique flora and fauna develops in different biomes.	How is the map of the world divided?	The world map is divided horizontally into zones called biomes largely based on their climate.
		What is unique about the environment of the UK?	The biome of the UK is a temperate forest which means the climate has little variation throughout the year.
		What is a rainforest?	The rainforest is a unique forest made up of 4 main levels with unique flora and fauna at each level.
	Humans use their local environment to their own advantage.	Why is the Amazon so valuable?	The Amazon has many important products and industries such as: vanilla, cacao, pepper, soy, cattle and timber.
		What role does the Amazon play in international trade?	These unique industries are valued by many different countries which increases demand for them.
		How does industry change the rainforest?	People have cut down, burnt, and hunted in the forest so they can increase the land used for their industry.
	Human development can have long lasting and devastating effects on the environment.	Why is deforestation a problem?	Deforestation has drastically reduced the size and irreparably damaged the habitats of animals and plants.
		How does deforestation affect other users of the forest?	There are many indigenous groups who have lost their homes, hunting grounds and ways of life.
		How could we stop the destruction of the rainforest?	Using new technologies and respecting the right of the forest to exist will help to slow the destruction.

Maps



The maps section includes a world biome map with a legend, a detailed map of the Amazon basin showing major rivers and countries (Venezuela, Colombia, Peru, Bolivia, Brazil), and a series of six maps showing the progression of deforestation in the Amazon from 1960 to 2020. The legend for the world map includes: Temperate forest (green), Tropical rain forest (dark green), Desert (yellow), Tundra (light blue), Grassland (orange), and Aquatic (blue).

Useful websites
https://www.wwf.org.uk/where-we-work/amazon
https://education.nationalgeographic.org/resource/rain-forest
https://www.greenpeace.org/usa/issues/brazil-and-the-amazon-forest/
https://www.natgeokids.com/uk/discover/geoqraphy/physical-geoqraphy/amazon-facts/
https://www.actionaid.org.uk/school-resources/resource/ks2-amazon-rainforest-brasil-package

Physical features / processes	
Biome	A large area characterised by its vegetation, soil, climate, and wildlife.
Rainforest	An area of tall, mostly evergreen trees and a high amount of rainfall.
Temperate forest	An area that is not extremely hot or cold, the forests are full of trees with wide, thin leaves
Tundra	A treeless regions, where the climate is cold and windy such as the Arctic.
Grassland	A large open area of country covered with grass, especially one used for grazing.
Desert	A barren area where little precipitation occurs making conditions hostile for life.
Aquatic	Areas that are dominated by water—from tropical reefs to brackish mangroves

Human features / processes	
Cattle ranch	A large farm for the growth of beef.
Indigenous people	People who have always lived in an area of the world.
Deforestation	The act of permanently changing an area from a forest to something else, usually purposely.
Amazon river	The widest river in the world, second in length only to the Nile.
Trade	The exchange of goods for money.

Key Vocabulary	
canopy	desert
emergents	aquatic
shrub	temperate
wildlife	tropical
Amazon	climate
rainforest	deforestation
biome	trade
polar	tribe
tundra	zone
grassland	advantages / disadvantages
investigate	justify

Geographical skills (Disiplinary Knowledge)	
Maps	Recognise some patterns on maps and explain what they show.
	Use 4 figure coordinates to locate features
	Digital mapping - Highlight an area and measure it.
	Digital mapping - Use grid references in the search function.
	Digital mapping - Use the grid reference toll to record location.
Interpretation	Explain the beliefs that result in difference for different members of a group.
	Develop and argument for and against a decision.
	Demonstrate how one point of view differs from another.