



Curriculum Information

Sycamore, Rowan and Larch

April - July 2023

Produced by:

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www.swansfieldpark.northumberland.sch.uk



Our topic for this term is *Adventures Under the Canopy*

This includes:

Geography - Rainforests

Children will begin by exploring where in the world rainforests are situated in regards to tropics and the equator before moving on to investigate their climate. The children will then have an opportunity to explore each layer of the rainforest including its vegetation and animals, creating an understanding as to why each are suited to such localities. The children will then move on to learning about tribe who live in the rainforest in particular the Yanomami tribe. To finish the unit, the children will gain an understanding of deforestation and its effect on the local and wider environment before exploring ways in which we can help to protect our rainforests.

Geography –South America and the Andes

Children will begin by using an atlas to identify the 12 countries that make up the continent. They will then use a climate map of the world to identify the different climates before taking a closer look at the varying climates in South America. Linking their prior learning from our Extreme Earth topic, children will recap tectonic plates and how mountains are formed before exploring the major mountain range. The children will have an opportunity to explore the human and physical geography of South America. The children will then be given the opportunity to complete an in-depth study of a South American country of their choice before comparing it to the UK.

Science- Living Things and Their Habitats (Life Cycles)

Children will learn about the process of reproduction and the life cycles of plants, mammals, amphibians, insects and birds. They will explore reproduction in different plants, including different methods of pollination and asexual reproduction. The children will also have the opportunity to take cuttings from plants, creating clones of the parent plant. They will learn about different types of mammals and their different life cycles, making life cycle wheels to present their learning. Furthermore, the children will find out about Jane Goodall and her work with the now-endangered chimpanzees in Africa. They will explore metamorphosis in insects and amphibians, comparing their life cycles. Finally, the children will explore the life cycles of birds, and will star in their own wildlife documentary comparing the life cycles of different living things.

Science- Living Things and Their Habitats (Classification)

Children will learn about the classification of living things, including micro-organisms. They will build on their work in Year 4 by sorting animals into groups based on their similarities and differences. They will then extend their learning to find out about the standard system of classification first developed by Carl Linnaeus, choosing an animal and researching its classification. The children will have the opportunity to design their own 'curious creature' and classify it based on its characteristics. They will learn about micro-organisms, and conduct an investigation into the growth of mould on bread. Finally, the children will put their learning into practice by creating a field guide to the living things in their local area, showing how and why each one is classified.

History- Jane Goodall and David Attenborough Study

Through their Science and Humanities work children will explore the life and works of these two significant individuals.

Art- Henri Rousseau's Jungle

Children will explore and replicate the Art of Henri Rousseau. They will improve their mastery of art techniques by using bold contrasting colours and repeated shapes and form when drawing and painting in the style of Rousseau.

Design and Technology- Wire Birds

Children will use a variety of creative ideas to research and develop the making of wire birds. They will begin the design process by exploring ideas through annotated sketches. Using a range of tools, children will begin to cut, shape and join wire sculptures whilst also developing their understanding of how to effectively strengthen and reinforce such structures. Children will then use Modroc to produce their final 3D product. At the end of the topic, children will evaluate their finished product against their original design criteria and consider the views of others to suggest improvement to their work.

English:

- Non-Chronological Reports, Dialogue, Descriptive Narratives (The Explorer - Katherine Rundell)
- Argument and debate (The Tin Forest - Wayne Anderson)

Mathematics:

Year 5: Geometry (Properties of Shapes / Position & Direction) and Measure (Converting measures and volume)

Year 6: Geometry (Properties of Shapes), Statistic and Problem Solving and Investigations

Other subjects:

P.E. Summer 1: NUF Athletics & Fitness

R.E: Christianity: Beliefs, Practices and Significance

Summer 2: NUF Athletics & Fitness, Cricket & Adventurous Activities **French:** Food

Music: Recorder Tuition & Charanga - Music and Me

PHRSE: Jigsaw - Relationships and Changing Me

Homework & Spellings:

Weekly Tasks: Every Monday, your child will continue to be set online homework tasks within their Google Classroom account. These will be outlined within the main page of Google Classroom and used to either prepare children for a new topic or consolidate new knowledge, skills and understanding. All children will have six days in which to complete and submit their homework. If your child has any difficulties accessing their homework, please contact their class teacher and alternative arrangements can be discussed.

Spellings: Spellings will continue to be set each Monday on www.spellingframe.co.uk and made live for six days. It is important that your child routinely practises their spellings as well as completes two online tests each week.

Punctuation and Grammar: As part of your child's weekly homework, they will routinely be set a quiz on www.SPAG.com. As with all homework tasks, the online quiz will be set on a Monday and made live for six days.

Mental Maths: Times Tables Rockstars and Sumdog should continue to be used by your child on a weekly basis to develop and secure their times tables skills. Mental maths skills will be tested on a weekly basis.

Reading: Your child should continue to access their weekly reading homework online through Reading Plus www.readingplus.com. They will need to read online for a minimum of 30 minutes each week, selecting texts that they are interested in and answering a range of comprehension questions in order to demonstrate their understanding.

Our UKS2 children will also continue to have Guided Reading sessions in school as well as visit the school library each week. Your child also has access to our fabulous eLibrary platform where they can access a wide range of audio books and online texts: swansfield.eplatform.co

PE Kits: Our UKS2 children will continue to participate in a range of PE sessions this term. They will need to come to school dressed in their school PE kit on their allocated days. Please note that earrings should not be worn in school.

Additional items in school: Please ensure that your child continues to bring a clean, named water bottle to school each day. As detailed in the UKS2 disclaimer form prior to the summer, mobile phones should only come in to school under exceptional circumstances. Staff do not collect phones in or store them during the school day, instead children will have to turn them off and leave them in a bag in the corridor. Children should not keep a phone in their coat pockets. School will take no responsibility for loss or damage to mobile phones in school.

As requested on several occasions last term, please could we ask that children's use of social media is routinely monitored by all parents. If you would like further guidance regarding age restrictions or parental controls, we are more than happy to provide you with this information, please get in touch with your child's class teacher.

Wellies and outdoor shoes: Please ensure that your child has a pair of named wellies or outdoor shoes available in school at all times for playtime as well as outdoor learning activities.

And finally, from the Upper Key Stage 2 team...

We hope that you had a wonderful Easter, we are looking forward to the exciting activities and trips coming up this term. If you have any further queries or questions, please just get in touch, we are always here to help.

Mrs Murdy

Miss Back

Miss Ridley

