

English

Chosen Texts

Journey to the Centre of the Earth based on the story by Jules Verne
Running Wild By Michael Morpurgo
The Incredible Ecosystems of Planet Earth by Rachel Ignotofsky

We will begin by planning and writing our own science-fiction narrative, using the chosen text to draw on examples of how the author has developed characters and settings. Later in the term, we will focus on persuasive writing linked to environmental issues and factual reports. Throughout the term, we will build our growing repertoire of rich vocabulary by selecting appropriate vocabulary from planning and understanding how choices can change and enhance meaning. We will continue to develop proof reading skills and in our own and others' writing, propose changes to grammar and vocabulary to improve consistency, including the appropriate choice of pronoun. Whole-class Guided Reading will encourage the children to discuss and respond to questions about texts as well as justify their ideas. To further support their writing, there will be weekly spellings sent home on Fridays, with a spelling quiz the following week.

Mathematics – Maths No-Problem!

Multiplication & Division
Time
Statistics/Data Handling
Fractions/Decimals

On Fridays, we will have weekly times table quizzes to monitor our progress with learning our times tables these follow the same format as the children can expect in the government end of year 4 test. At home, you can access SumDog to practice and develop multiplication and division fluency.

PSHE - HeartSmart

This term our topic *Too Much Selfie isn't Healthy* is about working well with others, about being a good listener and understanding that life is more about *we* than *me*. Love without action isn't love, it's a thought. Love requires an out; love does. By contributing to the lives of others we find fulfilment for ourselves and learn that *Too Much Selfie isn't Healthy!*

We will consider the importance of permission-seeking and giving, in relationships with friends, peers and adults and learn what is unacceptable physical contact. We will learn that the principles of permission apply online as well as face-to-face. Lastly, we will explore the importance of personal hygiene.

Boundless Biomes

Year 4 Spring Term

Science

We will further develop our understanding of keys, using them to identify animals from a range of habitats. We will also construct keys, learning to ask yes/no questions about characteristic differences between animals. When working scientifically, we will make detailed observations and learn which features are useful for identification and classification. We will learn about some of the positive and negative ways that humans change the environment, locally and globally, with a particular focus on how this affects other living things. We will develop our understanding of food chains and what happens if food chains are broken.

Next half term, we will look at the characteristic properties of solids, liquids, and gases. Using first-hand experience and secondary sources, we will learn about changes of state and begin to understand freezing and boiling points as identifying characteristics of a material. We will learn the names of some common gases. We will have the opportunity to explore the expansion of liquids and gases when they are heated. We will also learn about the water cycle.

RE

This term our RE learning will revolve around the key question: Why do Christians call the day Jesus died Good Friday? This will involve looking at key events, such as The Last Supper and describing how Christians show their beliefs about Jesus in their everyday lives.

Geography

This term we will investigate the five main biomes. A biome is a naturally occurring community of living organisms of a single major ecological region. Plants and animals will typically share characteristics that they have adapted to aid their survival in that region and habitat. We will look at closer detail at the main biomes; aquatic, desert, forest, grassland, rainforest and tundra. We will learn about the climate, soil type, animals and plants found in the main biomes. Later in the term we will explore the water cycle and its continuous journey to water from oceans and lakes, to clouds, to rain, to rivers and back to oceans and lakes. We will investigate rivers and locate both rivers across the world and locally.

Computing

This half term we will continue to expand our knowledge on programming. Through our small steps, we will use Turtle Academy to plan and create a program to produce a given outcome. This will include using infinite and count controlled loops.

PE

In dance, we will focus on creating characters and narrative through movement and gesture. We will gain inspiration from a range of stimuli, working individually, in pairs and small groups. In dance as a whole, we will think about how to use movement to explore and communicate ideas and issues, and our own feelings and thoughts. We will develop confidence in performing and will be given the opportunity to provide feedback and utilise feedback to improve our own work.

During hockey sessions, we will learn to contribute to the game by helping to keep possession of the ball, use simple attacking tactics using sending, receiving, and dribbling a ball. We will start by playing uneven and then move onto even sided games. We will begin to think about defending and winning the ball. We will be encouraged to think about how to use skills, strategies, and tactics to outwit the opposition. We will think about the importance of playing fairly and keeping to the rules. We will be encouraged to be a supportive teammate and identify why this behaviour is important.

During flexibility sessions, we will think about mindfulness and body awareness. We will learn poses and techniques that will help us to connect our mind and body. The sessions will develop well-being by building strength, flexibility and balance.

In Tennis, we will develop hitting and returning the ball using forehand as well as understanding backhand and when to use it. We will work cooperatively with a partner to keep a continuous rally going.

Design Technology

This term we will make our own stuffed toy based on a chosen animal. We will discuss a prototype in order to adapt the design. We will investigate the best materials to use and design a template. We will need to cut the fabric accurately and use stuffing for filling before creating a seam.

Boundless Biomes

Year 4 Spring Term

Music

We will further develop our skills of reading and writing correct notation. We will explore the importance of time signatures within a piece of music and understand how they impact the beats within a bar. We will learn the key vocabulary, minim, crotchet, crotchet rest and paired quavers.

French

We will have opportunities during speaking and listening activities to identify letter strings, contractions and silent letters in familiar words and pronounce when modelled. We will learn numbers 20-31 and the months of the year. We will explore and find out more about the main festivals and celebrations in France.

Art

We will be creating our own Fauvist style rainforest and desert scenes. We will identify similarities and difference in a range of artworks by artists such as Henri Matisse and Melanie Hava.

Spelling

This term we will learn further key spelling and the following key spelling rules:

- The /g/ sound spelt 'gu'
- Words with endings sounding like /tʃə/ spelt '-ture'
- Possessive apostrophe with plurals
- Homophones (scene/seen, mail/male, bawl/ball)
- Prefixes 'anti-' and 'inter-'
- Endings that sound like /ʃən/ spelt '-cian', '-sion', '-tion' and '-ssion'

