

Our Year 6 Curriculum - Spring 1



Our Lens



Climate and Biomes - Climates and biomes are important because they show how living things adapt and evolve to survive in their environments. For example, camels have evolved to live in hot deserts, while polar bears are perfectly suited for freezing Arctic biomes. By studying these places, we can see how animals, plants, and even people change over time to fit where they live. This helps us understand the story of life on Earth and why protecting these environments matters.

Big Question



How has the climate/biome impacted adaptation and evolution in the Galapagos?

Maths



This term, the children will start by exploring ratios, and learning how different numbers relate to each other through addition and multiplication. They will then move on to algebra, where they will create algebraic expressions and solve equations. Later in the term, the focus will shift to decimals, covering skills such as understanding place value, rounding, and solving problems involving multiplying, subtracting, and dividing decimals.

English



In our Destination Reading (DR) lessons, children will be reading 'Cogheart' by Peter Bunzl'. The story is about a girl called Lily whose father goes missing and now silver-eyed men stalk her through the shadows. Her friends Robert, the clockmaker's son, and Malkin, her mechanical fox go on an adventure through a murky and menacing world. However, along the way, Lily realises that those she holds dear may be the very ones to break her heart.

In our English writing lessons, we will be focusing on the fiction text types linked to our DR text. We will also focus on a non-fiction genre of explanation texts. We will be looking at model texts to draw out the features of this genre and look at specific grammatical features such as active/passive voice, subordinate clauses, subordinating conjunctions and relative clauses. The children will build up to writing their own explanation texts that will be linked to their history lessons.

Geography



In geography, the children will be learning about the Galapagos Islands. They will discover how these islands were formed and explore their climate, biome, and ocean currents. This will help them understand how these factors have shaped the unique plants and animals that live there. They will also learn how these elements have played a key role in helping animals adapt to their environment.

Science



In science, the children will build on their knowledge of animal characteristics and Carl Linnaeus's system for classifying living things. They will explore Darwin's theory of evolution and the idea of 'survival of the fittest.' As part of this, they will study how finches on the Galapagos Islands adapted their beaks to survive and learn how characteristics are inherited from parents to offspring.

Religious Education



This half term, the RE topic focuses on Christianity, with the key question: "Is Christianity still a strong religion 2000 years after Jesus was on Earth?" Pupils will explore the history and teachings of Christianity and reflect on its impact today, considering whether it has remained relevant and strong over the centuries.

PSHCE



The children will be learning about the influence of the media and its impact on people's well-being. They will explore a range of online content and media sources to learn about how to decide whether material is appropriate for their age and how to respond appropriately if it is deemed inappropriate.

British Value - Respect

Respect is a British value that involves treating others with kindness, fairness, and dignity. It means acknowledging people's feelings, beliefs, and rights, regardless of differences. Respect includes listening to others, valuing their opinions, and recognizing their worth as individuals. It helps create an inclusive and harmonious environment where everyone feels valued and treated equally.

Music Year 6 children will understand how music is used in films and television to create drama and add tension. They will explore how leitmotifs were used in the Romantic Era to represent characters by the likes of Richard Wagner to the modern-day use of themes by John Williams. They will create their own leitmotifs to represent heroic characters using the perfect fifth and 'baddies' using the chromatic scale. Art and This half term, children will explore how artists use various aspects of their identity, Design creating imagery which explores many different aspects within one image by using layers and juxtaposition. They will focus on the artist Nijdeka Akunyili Crosby and learn about her style and inspirations. Children listen to how the artists construct their work, before working to make their own layered and constructed portrait. Computing In this topic, children build upon their knowledge of how networks and the internet can share information. They will learn how big data can be used to design smart buildings to improve efficiency, before designing their own smart schools. They will also explore the potential dangers of big data. Online Safety - Creating a positive online reputation Children will learn how to create a positive online reputation, knowing that a 'digital personality' is developed by online activity and behaviour. We will also learn that we could use anonymity and frequently update privacy settings to prevent people from accessing information about us. **French** In French, our learning will be based around the topic 'Le Week-end' (The Weekend). This half term, the children will be learning a range of phrases to enable them to talk about activities that they might do at the weekend. They will also learn to tell the time accurately in French. Our focus will be on developing spoken fluency further by increasing the amount of language the children attempt to use, with an emphasis on the accuracy of their pronunciation. **Outdoor PE** Handball is an exciting invasion game where pupils learn the key skills of attacking and defending. In this unit, they will explore how to use strategies and tactics to outsmart their opponents, focusing on keeping possession and moving the ball towards the goal to score. Pupils will also learn the importance of fair play and honesty while managing their own games and following the rules. Additionally, they will practice evaluating their own and others' performances to improve their skills and teamwork. **Indoor PE** Gymnastics - In this unit, pupils will build on their understanding of how to create sequences in gymnastics. They will learn to use different levels, directions, and pathways, as well as how to link movements smoothly and work with a partner or apparatus. By working together in larger groups, pupils will develop trust and use formations to make their performances look more polished and creative. They will also practice giving and receiving feedback to improve their skills. Throughout gymnastics, pupils will focus on enhancing the quality and control of their movements to create impressive performances. Swimming - This term pupils will be working to improve their stamina. Pupils will be

building on previous learning, of all four strokes. Pupils will aim to improve their swimming distances achieved last term. Lessons will focus on achieving and excelling on National Curriculum expectations. Towards the end of the term, pupils

will learn water safety, reinforcing floatation, treading water and emergency

rescues learned previously.