

Year 4 Forests



Words we will use

rainforest, forest, canopy, understorey, emergent layer, deforestation, wildlife, slash and burn, habitats, indigenous, Amazon, endangered, species, diversity, fair-trade, mining, deciduous, evergreen, leaf, petal, renewable, stigma, stamen, anther, pollination, germination.

Building learning power

We will be helping children to develop their resilience through reviewing and editing work independently and with their peers.

PSHE

Our topic for this term is 'Physical health and Mental wellbeing.' This will include: maintaining a balanced lifestyle; oral health and dental care; growing and changing (specifically puberty); keeping safe.

Environmental Learning

We will be investigating effects of deforestation in rainforests throughout the world and the importance of trees and plants to our world.

As writers we will be studying poetry based on rainforests, persuasive texts related to deforestation, non-chronological texts, and narrative texts based on *The Explorer* by Katherine Rundell.

As readers we will read a selection of tree and forest related books; using these as stimuli for our English work. Our class book will be *The Explorer*.

As mathematicians we will develop our knowledge of fractions and data. We will also improve our ability to solve word problems involving addition, subtraction, multiplication and division. We will identify various polygons and their properties, including symmetry.

As scientists we will be studying and investigating how plants grow, how seeds germinate and how pollination works. The importance of correct growing conditions will also be studied.

As artists we will be sketching trees, leaves and plants, using these to print in the style of Henry Rousseau.

As designers we will develop our sewing and designing skills in making bags.

As musicians we will be composing music, in groups, to recreate *24 hours in a rainforest* using tuned (recorders and xylophones) and un-tuned instruments.

As sportspeople we will develop our teamwork skills in netball, tri-golf, cricket and improving our athletics skills.

During computing, the children will design and create a Powerpoint presentation in the style of a web page to accompany their games. Building on last year's skills, the children are now learning how to use 'variables', 'loops' and 'repetition' to develop their programming skills. They will finish this unit by creating their own game-apps.

As linguists we will be learning the French words for different animals.

In RE we will be answering the question, 'Why do Muslims fast during Ramadhan?' and in Christianity, 'What does love your neighbour really mean?'