

Curriculum Newsletter

Pearl, Emerald and Quartz Class

Spring 2

Vanishing Rainforests



Welcome Back, we are continuing our learning about the precious habitat that is The Tropical Rainforests. This term we will be looking at deforestation, its impact and ways in which we could help. We will also be comparing a Brazil in South America with deciduous rainforests of the UK. We are also very excited to have three amazing school trip this half term, to The Natural History Museum on 6th March, The Vue Cinema in Leicester Square to see the Inseparables on 12th March and Kew Gardens on 21st March. We will need some parent volunteers on these trips if you know that you are available and would like to join us please let your child's class teacher know.

Ideas for home learning:

Collect some pebbles from outside and paint somethings you might find in a rainforest on them.

When you're shopping look out for the Fairtrade logo on items. Research what it means and find out which countries the food comes from on an Atlas.

Visit Brockwell Park or Dulwich Woods and look at the type of woodland areas we have in this country.

Make a bark rubbing in the park.

Make a collage showing the different layers of the rainforest

Goldilocks words:

The Goldilocks words are the key vocabulary the children will learn, understand and be able to use by the end of the topic. They are called Goldilocks words as they are not too easy, not too hard, but just right!

Rainforest	species
Deforestation	extinction
Fairtrade	emergent layer
Tribe	forest floor
Endangered	understory
Canopy	

Key messages:

PE is on Monday and Friday

Please remember that children are to come to school in appropriate PE kit on those days. This should be White T-Shirt and black shorts or tracksuit trousers.

Book Bags should be in school every day please. You should aim to read with and sign your child's reading record every night. I shall be reading with one group every day and changing their books on those days. It is important that children keep a book for the week so that they can re-read and build up their confidence and fluency. As soon as reading days are set, I shall send home further information.

In English, we will be reading 'The Tin Forest' by Helen Ward and Wayne Anderson

We will be learning how to

- Add detail through use of expanded noun phrases and prepositional phrases.
- We will be looking at how we can start our sentences in a variety of ways.
- We will be learning how to proof read, edit our work and then make improvements
- Starting our sentences in different ways

We will be doing this through

- Persuasive letters
- Narrative
- Recounts
- Setting descriptions

In Computing, we will be beginning to understand programming.

In this unit we will:

- Learning what an algorithm is
- Following algorithms
- Writing our own algorithms
- Learning about and having a go at debugging our programmes

In Music, Some will be continuing Violin with Music Masters. Year 3 will be continuing to take part in Music lessons provided by Music Masters.

In RE, we will be learning about Christianity. We are learning about the Easter Story, Where Christians worship and how they use those spaces. We will be finding out about the bible, what it says and why it is important to Christians.

In PSHE, we will be completing the 'Healthy Me'

We will be learning and talking about how to:

- Make healthy choices
- Eat a balanced diet
- Be physically active
- Be a good friend
- Keeping calm

In Maths we will be:

Describing movement

- Describing turns
- Describing movement and turns
- Turns and angles
- Right angles in shapes

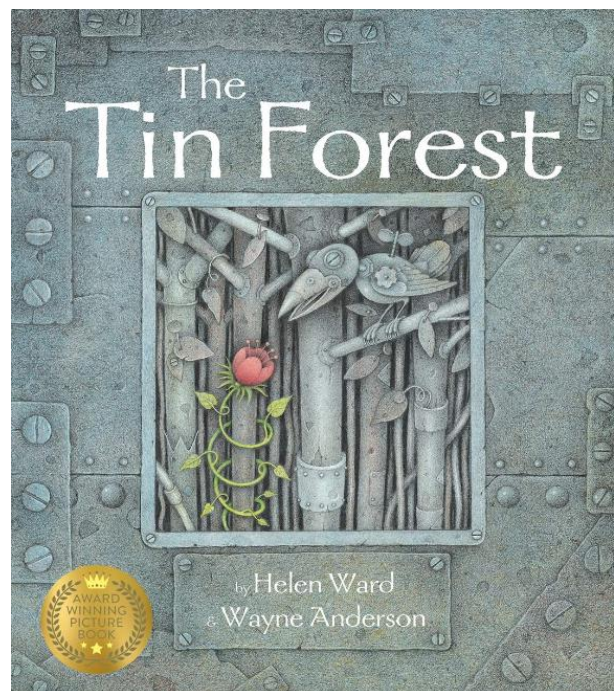
Shapes

- Recognise 2-D and 3-D shapes
- Recognise and describe 2-D shapes
- Measure and calculate perimeter

Fractions

Unit fractions

- Non-unit fractions
- Count in fractions
- Find half, quarter, three quarters and thirds
- find fraction of amounts
- find equivalent fractions



In Topic, we will be:

- Learning about where the Rainforests are located.
- Finding out what products we get from the rainforest.
- Learning about physical features of the rainforest and South America
- Comparing the Amazon rainforest to the deciduous rainforests in the UK
- Using maps to look closely at features and learn how to tell direction with a 4 and 8 point compass.