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| **Geography Focus - Threshold Concepts** | **Y4 The Americas** | **Art and Design - Threshold Concepts** |
| **Geography**  **Investigate Places:**   * Use maps, atlases, globes and digital/computer mapping to locate countries and describe features. * Ask and answer geographical questions about the physical and human characteristics of a location. * Use a range of resources to identify the key physical and human features of a location. * Name and locate the countries of Europe and identify their main physical and human characteristics. * Name and locate counties and cities of the Americas geographical regions and their identifying human and physical characteristics, including hills, mountains, cities, rivers, key topographical features and land-use patterns; and understand how some of these aspects have changed over time.   **Communicate Geographically:**   * **Use the eight points of a compass, four-figure grid references, symbols and key to communicate knowledge of the United Kingdom and the wider world.** | Enquiry Question:  ***Can you come on a great American road trip?***  **Class Text** Themes: an exciting story with a diary theme. A young child travels to the Amazon rainforest but after an unexpected incident they find themselves on a wild adventure. All captured in their jungle diary, this is a tale of survival and discovery.  https://images-na.ssl-images-amazon.com/images/I/51H9D3P7T5L._SX382_BO1,204,203,200_.jpg  **Supporting Text** Themes: A tale of mystery and suspense on a fast moving train from Chicago to San Francisco. A young boy goes on an exciting journey with his uncle only to find the adventure is just beginning.  Kidnap on the California Comet (Adventures on Trains Book 2)    **R.E**  Focus: Pilgrimage. Understand practices and lifestyles. Understand beliefs and teachings across religions.  **SMSC and PSHE**:  Focus: Being me in My World – recognise and understand how my actions and the actions of others affect my school community. Know what I can do to make people in my school community feel valued and included.  **D&T**  Focus: Levers and linkages. Master techniques and design processes. Understand and develop skills using a range of materials. | **Exploring Abstract Art**  **Develop Ideas**   * Adapt and refine ideas as they progress. * Explore ideas in a variety of ways. * Comment on artworks using visual language.   **Master Techniques**   * Use a number of brush techniques using thick and thin brushes to produce shapes, textures, patterns and lines. * Mix colours effectively. * Use watercolour paint to produce washes for backgrounds then add detail. * Experiment with creating mood with colour * Take inspiration from the greats   **Artist Spotlight: Wassily Kandinsky**   * Replicate some of the techniques used by notable artists, artisans and designers. * Create original pieces that are influenced by studies of others. |
| **Science**  **Understand electrical circuits:**   * Identify common appliances that run on electricity. * Construct a simple series electrical circuit, identifying and naming its basic parts, including cells, wires, bulbs, switches and buzzers. * Identify whether or not a lamp will light in a simple series circuit, based on whether or not the lamp is part of a complete loop with a battery. * Recognise that a switch opens and closes a circuit and associate this with whether or not a lamp lights in a simple series circuit. * Recognise some common conductors and insulators, and associate metals with being good conductors. | **Cross Curricular Opportunities**  **English:** speaking and listening; poetry; research skills, note-taking, non-chronological reports.  Extended Writing Process – diary entry.  Mini Process – Note taking, summaries, questioning and predictions.  **Maths:** direction and compass points, populations, historical dates.  **Computing**: Use some of the advanced features of applications and devices in order to communicate ideas, work or messages professionally.  **History:** exploration; use reliable sources to investigate the |