

MARVELLOUS MOUNTAINS AND MAYA

YEAR 6
SPRING 2 2024

PROJECT OVERVIEW

The project kicks off with an adventurous residential trip to the Brecon Beacons in Wales. We explore this beautiful area with the aid of OS maps, consolidating our learning about the physical and human geography and how the area is managed. A story weaves its way through the activities that provide opportunities to develop the children's problem-solving skills, tolerance and respect for others, whilst working as a team. During their trip, they design and create a sculpture of a dragon and perform their 'Dragon Calls' to their mountain leaders. Back at school, they continue their study of mountains, learning how they are formed, locating where other mountain ranges can be found worldwide. We also study the Americas, focusing on Central America and learn about the Maya civilisation.

ENGLISH

This term, we will be using The Water Tower as inspiration for our writing. The children will practise and apply a range of skills, writing for different purposes and in different forms. Will we ever find out the secret of the Water Tower? When they return from their exciting week away, they will write a persuasive letter, explaining and highlighting the benefits of the trip and why this trip must continue. Lastly, we will write from different viewpoints using the text 'My Family and Other Animals by Gerald Durrell' as inspiration.

MATHS

This term we will be identifying the parts of a circle: radius, diameter and circumference. We will revisit 2D shapes by identifying the angles within these and identify the nets of 3D solids. The children will apply their knowledge of coordinates within all four quadrants, recognising new coordinates following a reflection and translate shapes. Children will also be introduced to simple algebra and algebraic formulas and learn to solve problems that involve the conversions of measure.

SCIENCE

Evolution and Inheritance: We begin by learning that living things produce offspring of the same kind, but normally offspring vary and are not identical to their parents in the context of inheritance. We will then identify how animals and plants are adapted to suit their environment in different ways. The children will plan and conduct an experiment to see what effect the beak type/size has on a bird's ability to pick up different types of food. Children identify how adaptation may lead to evolution by examining the theories of evolution constructed by Darwin and others. Children will recognise that living things have changed over time and that fossils provide information about living things that inhabited the Earth millions of years ago.

RE

Children explore key events in the bible that lead up to Jesus' resurrection. They take part in a variety of activities designed to engage the children in the themes explored. 'What happens after life on earth ends?' is discussed. They will learn what Christians believe about resurrection and offer responses as to what difference belief in resurrection might make to how people respond to challenges and problems in the world today.

GEOGRAPHY

The children will describe and understand the key features of mountains and how mountains are made, climate zones and biomes. They will look more closely at America, focusing on Central America. Children will consider the similarities and differences between the Brecon Beacons and a mountain range of interest to them. (Integrated with Computing Unit)

HISTORY

The children will learn all about the ancient Maya civilisation: who the ancient Maya people were; where and when they lived. They will use maps and atlases to locate Maya cities and identify countries in Mesoamerica. They will learn about the daily life, religious beliefs and rituals of the ancient Maya people. The children will learn about the work of significant explorers and have the opportunity to analyse historical pictures of the cities they discovered.

ART

In Wales, the children will design and sculpt a clay dragon.

DT

The children will work in pairs to design and begin to build a model of a **fairground ride** mostly constructed in wood. The seats will hang from a pivot point created from either corflute, string, card or axel and drilled holes, rotating using a motor. This will be linked to a computer in the summer term using a Crumble board to operate our motors.

MUSIC

Music and Me is the first in a series of units focusing on inspirational women working in music. The children will explore the concept of 'identity' – the various elements that shape us. This unit will start with gender, with reference to social and cultural differences. The children will try out different ways of making their own music, while exploring the work of some of the most influential women in music over the last 100 years.

FRENCH

Moi et toi (Me and You) - This term the children are going to review the language to describe themselves to create a mini-book of information. This will include words to physically describe ourselves and others, relationships (brothers and sisters), events (birthday) and their likes and dislikes. In addition to this, children will revise numbers 1-31.

COMPUTING

ON-LINE SAFETY: Managing Online Information.
VIDEO:

Following on from the children's residential to The Brecon Beacons, children will construct a video informing others about how mountains are formed as well as the similarities and differences between the mountains of Central America and the Brecon Beacons. They will record, sequence, cut, trim and add effects to video in addition to exploring technique; picture in picture, cutaway and split screen. They will include animated titles as well as use a teleprompter to support the presentation of their video. Word processing skills are integrated.

PE

Gymnastics

Children will learn how to perform complex balances with tension and strength, moving smoothly from one to the next. They will learn to straddle or squat over a platform and land with control.

Hockey

Children will learn to perform a wide range of advanced hockey skills with consistency and accuracy in order to improve their performance through collaboration with others. They will develop their determination to succeed through regular practice.

PSHE

Belonging to a Community: Valuing diversity; challenging discrimination and stereo types.

Media Literacy and Digital Resilience: Evaluating media sources; sharing things online.

Money and Work: Influences and attitudes to money; money and financial risks.