

Let's Explore the Great Outdoors

Year 2 - Terms 1 and 2

Mathematics

We will be developing our counting, partitioning and calculating skills through work on place value, addition, subtraction, multiplication and division. We will be working on developing strategies to help us solve a variety of maths problems. We will be handling data, using measures and exploring shapes.

Topic Vocabulary:

habitat
environment
log
bush
soil
sky
hive
insect
thorax
abdomen

English

Phonics - We will be revising the sounds learnt in Year 1. This term we will be learning prefixes/suffixes and applying these to our own spelling.

Reading - We will be reading a variety of stories, poems and information texts with an animal theme. We will be using these texts to develop our comprehension skills.

Writing - We will be writing poems, fact sheets and stories related to our topic. We will be learning how to write instructions and letters. Throughout our work, handwriting, correct use of punctuation and presentation will be an important focus.

Spoken Language - We will be reciting poems, stories and preparing presentations for others. We will pose questions and tell our own imaginary stories using expression and gestures.

RE

We will be looking at the importance of Harvest celebrations. We will be retelling stories from the Bible, identifying how Christians believe Jesus brings good news. We will be recognising why Christmas matters to Christians.

Computing

We will be developing our word processing skills using a variety of programs.

We will also use CD Roms and the Internet to find out information about our topic.

We will use simple algorithms to program digital devices. We will be discussing the importance of Internet safety.

Art and Design

Using the theme of 'Adventures in the Great Outdoors' as a stimulus we will experiment with different painting techniques and materials to produce pictures. We will work at improving our drawing skills through careful observation.

We will look at the work of Pablo Picasso to produce our own cubist masterpieces.

PSHE

We will discuss and follow our whole school rules, the Coalway Bees. We will be suggesting rules that will keep us happy, friendly and safe. We will know the differences between unkind behaviour and bullying. We will be discussing what the word community means.

Geography

We will be developing our mapping skills and using simple keys to make maps portraying areas in our school grounds and local area.

We will use atlases to look at places in the UK and compare them to different locations around the world. We will learn about different areas around the world and compare and contrast them with our local area.

Design and Technology

We will be designing and making an animal puppet, bag or pencil case. We will learn a simple way of stitching to join fabric. We will evaluate our work to suggest improvements.

Topic Books you may want to share with your child:

*Superworm
*Spinderella

*Mad About Minibeasts
*The Rainforest Grew All Around

*The Great Explorer

PE

We will be developing our stamina, fitness and co-ordination through gymnastics using the floor and large apparatus and daily Coalway Blast sessions. We will create dances using our theme as a starting point.

Music

We will be exploring pulse, rhythm, pitch and dynamics through the use of instruments and our own voices. We will be learning a variety of seasonal songs for Harvest and Christmas.

History

We will be using a variety of sources to find out about significant events such as The Gunpowder Plot, The Great Fire of London and Remembrance Day. We will be finding out about the famous Polar explorer Robert Scott.

You can help your child by...

- * Listening to them read on a regular basis and encouraging them to read a wide variety of texts.
- * Helping them with spellings.
- * Helping them to memorise the 2, 5 and 10 times tables.
- * Asking them to tell you what they have been learning in school and helping them to look for information on the internet and in books.
- * Encouraging them to do little jobs around the house to promote their independence.
- * Log in to Purple Mash to access a variety of activities for your child to do at home.

Science

We will be investigating the variation in the animal kingdom by focussing on animals from different regions. We will find out about their habitats, life cycles and food. We will be 'bringing up' a butterfly as an experience in the study of life cycles. We will investigate simple food chains.

The children will be planning and organising a snail race.

We will be finding out what plants need to grow and flourish.

We will be going on bug hunts around the school grounds and taking local woodland walks to find wild animal tracks.

Can you help us?

If you have any interesting artefacts and books relating to our topic and would not mind us borrowing them, please could you send them into school with your child. Thank you.