

English

As readers and writers, we will be inspired by some Mayan animal origin myths to write our own mythical narratives. Our focus will be on creating descriptive writing for our readers by developing our vocabulary and sentence structures to add detail while keeping our reader guessing. We will also be preparing and performing poetry based on the sounds and sights of the rainforest.

Maths

As mathematicians, we will be investigating formal methods of multiplication and division, and solving calculations based on known facts. We will also be exploring the use of fractions to calculate quantities and to solve money and measure problems.

Science

As scientists, we will be investigating the properties of materials and their states of matter. We will be conducting experiments to see how this changes, as well writing as a water droplet in the water cycle.

Languages

As linguists, we will be learning how to use different conjunctions in French and to be more precise with our language when asking for something. Children will then learn the different names of vegetables and formulate these into short, expressive sentences.

Art

As artists, we will be inspired by the work of Gillian Ayres to create rainforest paintings. We will explore the effect of using harmonious and complementary colours, considering the impact they have on the piece of art.

The Rainforest: What Lies Beneath?

Religious Education

As spiritual learners, we will be exploring the purpose of prayer and different places of worship for Christians, Muslims, Buddhists and Jews. We will also consider the denominational worship and traditions of different faiths.

PSHCE

As members of the school community, we will be learning about the importance of physical health and wellbeing. We will also explore the concept of peer pressure and consider ways of avoiding feeling conflicted by others.

Music

As musicians, the children will be composing pieces of music and performing them using Djembe drums.

Computing

As computer scientists, we will be developing our knowledge of word-processing and presentation skills. We will be learning to use keyboard shortcuts, as well as rotating, resizing and editing pictures to save as a jpeg.

History

As historians, we will be exploring the Maya period. We will use a range of sources and artefacts to answer questions about the past, and make comparisons between the Maya time and modern day life.

Physical Education

As athletes, the children will be working on their passing, dribbling and defending skills in hockey. Two classes will also be developing their vital swimming skills, whilst the other class will be creating and performing dances using a variety of movement patterns.

Key texts and complimentary reading:

The Chocolate Tree (A Mayan Folk Tale) – Linda Lowery

Rain Maker – David Wisniewski

How the Quetzal Got its Feather – Mayan Myth

The Drop in My Drink: The Story of Water on our Planet – Meredith Hooper

Middleworld – J&P Voelkel