

The Great Kapok Tree

As writers we will:
Explore a new and exhilarating narrative writing unit based on an interesting text called *The Secret of Black Rock* by Joe Todd-Stanton which will enable us to engage our creative writing skills.
We look forward to some delightful and phenomenal experience lessons and exciting sentence stacking lessons which will allow us to explore new SPAG concepts which we will then confidently apply in our final independent big write.

As Artists we will:

- Look at different styles of watercolour paintings and techniques.
- Create a watercolour painting based on the rainforest and using the leaf impressions technique.

As design and technologists, we will:

- Be using different search engines to find and identify rainforests in the world.

As geographers we will:

- Explore a variety of rainforests from around the world.
- Research and identify the problems that global warming has on the world's rainforests.
- Explore what deforestation is.
- Research the history of deforestation.
- Explore places that have been most effected by deforestation.

As scientists we will:

- Identify the different parts of flowering plants.
- Explore the functions of the different parts of flowering plants.
- Investigate the way in which water is transported through plants.
- Explore the requirements for the growth of plants.
- Explore the part that plants play in the life cycle of a flowering plant, including pollination, seed formation and seed dispersal.

HPL—As high-performance learners we will:



Take ownership of our learning by coming up with our own useful futuristic creations out of plastic waste.





Link our knowledge and understanding of the way in which a rainforest functions and the problems caused by deforestation. This is also our link to the wider world.





We will continue to develop our communication skills across the curriculum, exploring the requirements of plants to survive and explaining this to our peers.

This half-term we will be:
Exploring all the different ways that we can help to save our planet for the future and examine rainforests around the world. We will be thinking about the impact that global warming has on the rainforests and other issues faced, such as deforestation. As learners concerned with the environment, we will be seeking ways in which we can help our planet for the future.

Our text this term will be *The Great Kapok Tree*, which is a wonderfully visual short narrative, which explores our theme of rainforests and deforestation.

As artists, we will be exploring watercolour painting in detail. We will look at a variety of examples, specifically looking at pieces of art that are linked to nature and different skills we can use to interpret this nature. Using these features, we will be creating our very own watercolour painting of a rainforest, using the leaf impression technique.

As Writers, we will explore the text 'Secret of the Black Rock' and create our own narratives using writing techniques that we explore during our sentence stacking and experience lessons.

- In this topic we want to find out:**
- What is the climate like in the rainforest?
 - Why is it called the rainforest?
 - How many rainforests are there?
 - What animals and tress survive in the rainforests?
 - What impact does deforestation of rainforests have on the environment and us?
 - What can we do to protect rainforests?

As readers we will:
Use the Reading Rainbow **FANTASTICs** to:

- Explore and discuss the main ideas in a text.
- Consider senses to understand a text further.

Use the Reading Rainbow **ANALYTICs** to:

- Show an understanding of a text.
- Consider specific details of a text, such as setting, characters and themes.

Use the Reading Rainbow **STYLISTICs** to:

- Show confidence analysing and discussing the deeper meanings of a text.
- Infer why a character might feel a certain way.
- Sharing opinions based on evidence from the text.

As mathematicians we will :

- Recognise equivalent fractions with the same and different denominators.
- Compare fractions using the correct symbols.
- Solve problems involving fractions.
- Understand the days and months in a year and the hours in a day.
- Estimate the time on a clock.
- Read and tell the time to the nearest 5 and 1 minute.
- Read and tell the time using 12 hour and 24 hour timings.
- Read and tell the time using an analogue and digital clock.
- Work out the duration by finding the start and end times.
- Measure time in seconds.

As users of technology we will:

- Engage in desktop publishing and creating documents by modifying text, images and page layouts for a specified purpose.

As citizens' of the UAE we will:
Look at how the city of Dubai has become more sustainable. We will then relate this to sustainability for the future. Not only in Dubai, but all around the world.

GFS Curriculum Drivers linked to the National Agenda		
Enterprise and Innovation	Eco and Environment	Inclusive Communities
As enterprising children, we will create something innovative out of plastic waste that will be beneficial for the future.	As people concerned with the environment we will discuss ways in which we can protect our planet and rainforests.	As members of a community we will gain a broader understanding of how deforestation is affecting our planet and what we can do to help.

Opportunities for Enrichment	
School	Home
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We will visit the Green Planet right here in Dubai to explore a rainforest environment. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Engage in reading of various books related to rainforests such as 'If I ran the rainforest by Bonnie Worth' and 'Don't let them disappear by Chelsea Clinton'