

## Amazon Adventure - Summer 1

### English

We will explore the theme of rainforests in the texts that we read and discuss our thoughts and opinions about meanings and messages that we find. We will identify the countries and cultures of the texts by using clues about way of life, plants and animals and anything else that we spot. We will explore how and why certain vocabulary may have been chosen by an author and we will identify how language, structure and presentation can contribute to stories persuading the reader.



**How you can help:** whilst your child is reading to you, encourage them to locate challenging vocabulary, discuss the meaning with them and get them to use it in their own sentence; talk about the story so far and make predictions using clues in the text; encourage them to say why they think or believe in something using words such as 'because'; continue to learn spellings with your child making it fun by using the activities sheet that I have sent home; talk about the ideas and learning on your child's reading bookmark.

### Maths

We will begin our big focus on fractions this half term ensuring that we have a secure understanding of what they are before working with them to add and subtract as well as carrying out other computations. We continue to consolidate the four operations and revise what we have covered in the year so far.

**How you can help:** continue to learn the times tables with your child and get them involved with as much real-world problem solving as possible. They can help you to work out costs and change when out and about, help them to see shapes and patterns as you travel around and help them to learn key facts such as how many centimetres are in a metre and what a prime number is. Transum.org has some good activities, many of which are free, and I also like multiplication.com because it has some fun games that can be customised. Hit the button is a great game to play to develop times tables knowledge. Our times tables tests will continue to be mixed times tables and will be word problems and reasoning questions. If your child still struggles with times tables, please keep up learning them weekly.

[www.nopressuremaths.com](http://www.nopressuremaths.com)

[www.transum.com](http://www.transum.com)

[www.mathsframe.co.uk](http://www.mathsframe.co.uk)

[www.multiplication.com](http://www.multiplication.com)

[www.activelearnprimary.com](http://www.activelearnprimary.com)

### Science

We will describe the differences in the life cycles of a mammal, an amphibian, an insect and a bird; describe the life process of reproduction in some plants and animals; know that plants produce pollen from the stamen (male part of a plant) which is transferred to the stigma and then the ovary (female parts of the plant); explore how fertilisation occurs in the ovary of the flower and know that seeds are formed as a result of fertilisation.

### P.E.

On Monday afternoons, we will develop our skills associated with striking games. We will focus on fielding, catching, striking and using space in the game of cricket. We will develop our skills before building up to some mini games adapted from the actual game of cricket.

On Thursday afternoons, we will continue to go swimming. We will walk to Ribby Hall and have our lessons with fully qualified swimming teachers. Please come and see me if your child has any anxieties about swimming lessons.

### R.E.

Please see separate newsletter.

### Art

We will explore the work done by Ruth Daniels. Her work focusses on creating the flora and fauna of Rainforests and has a simple style that can be recreated with pastels. We will look at blending colour to create depth and evaluate our own and others' work.



### Computing

We will be having a look at coding in computing. We will do some debugging tasks and explore how computer commands are written in code. We will then use Scratch to code some simple activities and then create some simple games. We will need a lot of resilience to work in this new language and find bugs and remove them. We will talk about the difference between a bug and a glitch.

### Geography

We will study the geography of the Amazon Basin which is the region of South America drained by the Amazon River and its tributaries. As most of the region is covered by tropical rainforest (biome) we will learn about this and other rainforests of the world. We will start to learn how the future of tropical rainforests and other ecosystems is closely connected to human lives and lifestyles. We will also learn about the wider country of Brazil in which most of the Amazon rainforest is located.

### Music

Year 5 will continue to be taught by Mrs. Mallinson, our music specialist, on Friday mornings.

### MFL

Year 5 will continue to be taught by Mrs. Spacey on Friday mornings.

Please come in to see me after school if you have any issues or concerns or make an appointment through the office.

Thank you.

Mr. Knight