

Born to be Wild



The Big Idea

'Understanding of the natural world is a source of not only great curiosity, but great fulfilment... it's our responsibility to do everything within our power to create a planet that provides a home not just for us, but for all life on Earth' – Sir David Attenborough

This half term Year 2 set about understanding the living beings that share our planet. We discover the lifecycles of animals and plants and how we can play our part in the protection of habitats and species.

As mathematicians we will

be continue our learning into fractions of shapes, objects and quantities. We will be using our knowledge of multiplication and division facts to help us move away from solving problems in a picture form to more abstract calculations. We will begin our work on telling the time, reading the clock to the 5minute intervals to and past the hour. Problem solving and reasoning questions will involve working out how much time has past and comparing durations of times. Towards the end of the half term we will being our statistics unit of learning. Amongst other data collected we will be investigating the colours of smarties within a tube, collecting data and recording our findings in different ways. Throughout the half term we will be continuing with our arithmetic skills, solving calculations efficiently and using the most appropriate strategy.

As scientists we will

be continuing our unit of work on plants. We will be investigating what a seed needs to germinate and looking at the lifecycles of different plants found on our school site. Working scientifically, we will carry out investigations linked to plant growth and discover how to care for the plants in our environment. We will look at our own human lifecycle and how humans change from babies to adults. Using photographs, we will observe changes in our development and what changes are yet to take place. We will then look at animal lifecycles noting the similarities and differences between adults and their young. Frogs, ladybirds and butterflies will be a focal points to our investigations and observations, with caterpillars transforming into butterflies before our own eyes.

As historians we will

be looking at the lives of people who have worked to conserve animals and their habitats and considering how their work in the past has had an impact today. We will also be spending some time looking into the life of King Charles ahead of his coronation during the half term.

As geographers we will

be mapping different animal habitats around the world and thinking about how cold and hot climates effect the population that chooses to live there. We will be looking at physical features, extending our geographical vocabulary of different landscapes and see how humans have adapted to living in different conditions.

As language experts we will

be developing spelling and grammar techniques to understand how suffixes alter the meaning of root words and how we can use vocabulary effectively in our writing. Using the correct tense and experimenting with sentence type and conjunctions will continue to level up our writing and give us the skills we need to write for different purposes. Our story writing will be developed as we explore the story '*The Secret of Black Rock*' by Joe Todd-Stanton. We will focus on descriptions of setting and build on our portrayal of the coast from previous stories we have read. Continuing with our narrative writing skills, we will explore the book '*The Tear Thief*' by Carol Ann Duffy. We will learn more about character description and crafting language to bring creative characters to life in a magical story structure. We will end the half term by looking at explanation texts. 'Can you build another me?' by Shinsuke Yoshitake will help us to build a robot version of ourselves that can aid us in our day to day lives. We will think about what it needs to be able to do and write a detailed booklet to explain how it works. Reading, as always, will be at the heart of our English Curriculum, and along with the texts we will be unpicking to aid our writing skills, we will be looking more closely at answering comprehension style questions through our guided reading sessions.

Across the curriculum

As athletes we will be continuing with our unit on yoga and mindful movement before turning our attention to swimming skills at Keyworth Leisure Centre. Alongside our swimming lessons, striking and fielding lessons will continue with Mr Clarke at school.

As musicians we will be joining together as a school to enjoy different genres of music. We will develop confidence to sing and perform a range of different songs and learn about the composers and songwriters.

As expressive artists we will be creating our own pictures based on the work of Georgia O'Keefe. We will be using viewfinders to create skill life drawings before enlarging these to master some oil pastel pictures. We will be developing our modelling skills, turning our sketches and ideas into clay flower bowls.

As computer specialists we will be using and developing our internet searching skills to find information about animals in our school environment. By working on building fact files using Microsoft Word we will develop our word processing skills and add pictures to finish a presentation document.

As theologians and thinkers will be looking at Christianity, Judaism and non-religious views. We will be thinking about what is means to belong and how and why some stories are important in Religions.

Citizenship, the 5 C's and British Values

We will be looking at how we keep ourselves and others safe, starting with the home and school, before thinking about life in the wider community, travelling along roads and playing near open water. As a school, we will be exploring the protected characteristics and understanding how important and precious respect and individual rights are.

Ambition and possibilities

Will animals in our world be around forever? What threatens different species and have all animal species on planet Earth already been discovered? If we have explored so little of our oceans, what creatures are yet to be found...?