



A place to call home

As language specialists

We will learn how to read and write non-fiction reports and fact files based on countries and geographical areas which we study. We will become skilled in using contents pages and indexes to locate the information we need. In a bid to encourage new inhabitants to settle in our new country, we will take inspiration from the travel industry and hone our persuasive writing techniques. When learning about the natural world, we will study the broadcasting of David Attenborough and learn from his descriptive clarity. Of course, we will never be far away from good quality fiction – stories are at the heart of all our English lessons. We will study Michael Morpurgo's *Kensuke's Kingdom* in depth, learning how to relate to characters and create a fantasy world. What better way to inspire us!

The Big Idea...

With global temperatures rising, ice caps melting, rainforests being bulldozed and oceans being filled with plastic, the future of planet Earth does not always look so bright and cheerful. But just imagine an opportunity to learn from our past mistakes and start all over again from scratch! Just imagine that a mysterious and incredibly wealthy benefactor revealed that they had plans to build a brand new nation state somewhere in the Pacific Ocean. What is more, this mystery philanthropist is launching a competition to find the greatest design for this innovative new country. One thing is for sure, the winning designer will not only have to know an awful lot about the whole in which they live, but be also be creative and ambitious and inspired!

As mathematicians we will

Plenty of mathematical skills will be required when it comes to designing a new country. As well as working on converting units, we will learn how to use grid references and coordinates. In addition to this, we will be getting our teeth stuck into working with fractions. We will take our time when it comes to this crucial topic and apply our knowledge across a range of contexts. Also as we study human and physical geography from around the world, we will learn a range of data handling techniques.

Our Goals as Geographers

Through learning about the Tropics, Equator, Arctic, Antarctic and associated climates, decide in the optimum location for our new country. When sculpting our new country, we will take inspiration from the mountain ranges, mighty rivers, costal cliffs and sprawling forests of the world. We will use the compass points to orientate the different features planned into our islands.

Our Goals as Historians

In order to build our capital city we will learn about the devastation caused by the Great Fire of London and the aftermath including the rebuilding plans submitted by Sir Christopher Wren. We will also learn about the impact of the industrial revolution on our landscape through learning about Isambard Kingdom Brunel's inspiring infrastructure legacy.

Our Goals as Scientists

Our new island will need to be home to a balanced ecosystem. We will investigate biomes and habitats from around the world before deciding which species are best to bring to our new country. We will also need to be able to harness energy in order to thrive. We will investigate different methods of generating energy. Saving energy is just as important as producing it so we will experiment in order to find out which different materials should be used to insulate all our new houses.

Across the curriculum

As expressive artists Art is fundamental to culture, and any new country will need to express itself artistically. We will draw inspiration from the different artistic traditions belonging to the countries and regions that we will study. From the European Renaissance to Aboriginal Australian collectives, we will learn about colour, form and style.

As computer specialists

We will make use of the school's computers in order to prepare a presentation about our ideas for creating a new island state. The children will learn how to scan in their own work, prepare different slides and present their plans to the rest of the class.

As fitness experts

We will learn how to build fitness and stamina by rowing on our rowing machines. We will first learn safe techniques before recording our best performances and then trying to beat them as the weeks progress.

Knowledge of the World

By the end of the half term, children will understand the variety of culture around the world and the many different ways of living.

Citizenship

Before we look at the rest of the world, what things do we value about living in Britain? What makes us a British citizen? Are these values found in other countries around the world?

Ambitious thinking

What do all countries and societies have in common? What is it about the way that we live our lives that is fundamental to our wellbeing? What can we do without? What sort of a world do we want for the future?