



Home Learning



Year 6 Term 6 Week 3

(week beginning 15th June 2020)

Hello South Africa Class. As some of you may already know, some children are returning to school this week. With this in mind, the newsletter may look a little different. Each week there will be a new theme - this week is 'Rainforests'. The activities will be the ones we will be covering in school (or a variation of) and therefore you will be able to pick activities within the theme that the whole class will be looking at, whether that be in school or at home. As always, have a look at the recommendations as a family and pick which ones work best for you.

I am aware that many of you have been sent a transition pack from your secondary school, so if you wish to prioritise that to help you prepare for next year then feel free.

English

This week you could focus on the theme of 'Rainforests'. Here are a few ideas of writing projects you could complete.

Visit the Literacy Shed for this wonderful resource on [The Alchemist's Letter](#) or take part in a writing [master class](#).

After the reading task, your child can write a diary entry from the viewpoint of the [child](#) who lives in the rainforest. Alternatively, they can write a diary entry in the day in the life of [Toki](#). What is the message of the story and how he felt throughout the clip. What emotive language could they use?

Ask your child to write a poem about the rainforest. Get your children to try and create 4 stanzas about the climate, animals, what they like about it and the potential dangers. Ask them to perform their poem.

Ask your child to write two contrasting descriptions of the rainforest. One depicting the rainforest's [beauty](#) and the other [deforestation](#).

Rainforests are destroyed by nature too so we should make use of their products rather than waste them. Your child can write a balanced argument.

Reading

Here are some 'Rainforests' reading ideas.

- Encourage your child to listen to a free age-appropriate audiobook [here](#), or choose a book from [Oxford Owl](#). Why not read under a tree in the garden for a welcome change?

Ask your child to read an account of living in a rainforest [here](#). Your child can record what the child likes and doesn't like about living in the rainforest.

Ask your child to listen to and read along with [A Blade of Grass](#). What message is the poet trying to convey to the reader?

Ask your child to find a recipe involving chocolate in a recipe book or [here](#). They can find out about chocolate [here](#) and summarise their learning.

Task your child with creating a rainforest themed bookmark for a younger sibling or family member.

Maths

Here are some additional Maths ideas.

Ask your child to play '[Match the Fraction](#)'. Encourage your child to challenge themselves by trying the mixed numbers.

- Get your child to practise converting decimals to fractions and write fractions in their simplest form on this [online activity](#). Click the box that says 'decimals fractions' and select one of the options on the right. Get your child to record their answers on a piece of paper before checking by opening the boxes.

Divide a piece of paper into four and ask your child to select four cards from a pack of playing cards and make two fractions by placing a card in each quadrant. Your child can compare the two fractions using the inequality symbols (< > and =).

Can your child find the distance from Birmingham Airport to the Amazon Rainforest using Google maps? When is the best time to visit?

- Your child can have a go at this [negative numbers game](#) and/or his [whole numbers game](#).

Topic

During this week it would be wonderful if the children could engage in some learning opportunities to learn more about Rainforests. Here are a few ideas of what you could do:

- **Deforestation: Destroying Animal Habitats and The Homes of Humans-** Deforestation occurs in [rainforests](#) throughout the world. Trees are cut down on a huge scale, often to create space for grazing livestock or buildings. As part of this process, [animal habitats and the homes of native people are often destroyed](#). Direct your child to create a poster highlighting the impact of deforestation on both humans and animals. Encourage them to think of possible solutions to some of these challenges and include these solutions on their posters. Remember to tweet a photo of their poster using [#TheLearningProjects](#).
- **Welcome to The Jungle: Let Creativity Roar!**- Henri Rousseau was a French painter from the 19th Century who created many paintings inspired by jungles and rainforests, although he never actually visited one. Direct your child to explore [facts](#) about this famous painter and encourage them to create a jungle/rainforest piece of [artwork in his style](#). They could draw, paint or create a collage, depending on the resources you have available at home.
- **Discovering Far off Lands-** In the 16th century, Sir Walter Raleigh sailed the Atlantic Ocean in search of a place called El Dorado. His expedition took him to Guyana and his search led him to discover the country's rainforest. 400 years on, a group of children have taken on the challenge to follow in Sir Walter's footsteps in their own expedition to Guyana. Direct your child to watch this clip and explore the others on the [BBC Teach website](#). Challenge them to plan their own expedition and consider what they would need to take with them. Alternatively, they could write a first-hand account of their time in the rainforest from the perspective of Sir Walter. Remind them that Sir Walter would not have had access to the mod cons we do now.
- **Rumble in The Jungle - Get that Heart Rate Going!** - Encourage your child to increase their heart rate by challenging themselves and members of the family to mimic the actions of animals which inhabit rainforests. Actions could include: jumping over logs, ducking under branches, high knees through quicksand, running from a tiger etc. Challenge them to record their heart rate (beats per minute) after each activity. Which activity increased their heart rate most? **Recommendation at least 2 hours of exercise a week.**
- **Deforestation: Our Climate and Our Planet-** As well as impacting on animal habitats and native people, deforestation is also a major contributor towards climate change. Direct your child to create an awareness leaflet about the effects of [climate change](#) on our planet and how [deforestation is contributing](#)

[towards this.](#)

Rainforest Leaf Adaptation

- Watch [this](#) video.
- Many tropical rainforest leaves have a drip tip to help them cope with high rainfall. It is thought that these drip tips enable rain drops to run off quickly. Plants need to shed water to avoid growth of fungus and bacteria in the warm, wet tropical rainforest. Have a look at some other common leaf adaptations [here](#).
- Look at the leaves in your garden or out on a walk. What adaptations do they have? Create a branching identification key to help identify the leaves in your area.