

Rumbling Rainforests

Rationale

The rainforest is full of surprises... from its incredibly remarkable creatures to mysterious layers to scrumptious fruits, this topic unearthed all sorts of rainforest treasures we were unaware of!



Creativity	Independence	Aspiration
<p>We:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sketched images of the rainforest and made material images using Henri Rousseau as inspiration. • Made our own instruments. • Created music and performances using the sounds of the rainforest as inspiration. We then had our own class orchestra! 	<p>We:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Researched the animals of the rainforest. • Created our own Rainforest Café. • Persuasive posters and writing about saving the rainforests. 	<p>We:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Learnt about the animals of the rainforest. • Learnt about how chocolate is made. • Visited Bugtopia! • We completed our reading challenge!
<p>Spark We visited Bugtopia at Rutland Water. We experienced what the rainforest environment feels like and got to meet some creatures of the rainforest!</p>		<p>Learning Celebration We got to sample foods of the rainforest and create our own Rainforest Café!</p>
<p>Role Playing/Life Skills/Real Learning We learnt about deforestation and taking care of our environment. Map skills – atlases, Google Earth, comparing distances, maps online.</p>		<p>Community Cohesion We visited Bugtopia at Rutland Water. We celebrated the Premier League trophy event.</p>
<p>Out of Classroom Opportunities We went on a leaf hunt to inspire our Rousseau artwork. We visited Bugtopia. We've been out of the classroom to do our sounds investigation. We've been out of the classroom to play musical instruments. We've been out of the classroom to do our rainforest fruit tasting! We've started taking part in the Daily Mile.</p>		<p>Home Learning Activity Researched which animals live in the Amazon Rainforest. Designed our own Rainforest Café. Written rainforest poems. Linked to our science-fiction: Iron Giant artwork Robot stories</p>
<p>Computing and E-safety We learnt about effective research and reliable sources when completing our research projects. We used the <i>Explain Everything</i> app to record ourselves telling our science-fiction stories. We learnt how to create slides, how to add images and text and how to use the recording functions. We continued our Purplemash work, revising our work on computing coding and debugging.</p>		
<p>Links to discrete subjects: Literacy Maths RE Music MFL PHSE English: We wrote non-chronological reports about the layers of the rainforest, persuasive writing about why children should or should not be allowed to eat chocolate, descriptive writing based on</p>		

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The Tin Forest, explanations of how chocolate is made and poetry about the rainforest. After our visit to Bugtopia, we wrote a recount and leaflets for visitors. We entered the Premier League Stars poetry competition about resilience. We wrote a descriptive piece of writing about the sounds of the rainforest and created our own Rainforest Café menu. We created persuasive posters and writing about how we need to prevent deforestation.

Maths: We've been working a lot with equipment to help us understand concepts, methods and the value of digits in 4-digit numbers. We've been exchanging in the column method for addition and subtraction, being multiplying and dividing by 10 and 100 and started looking at how we can use the bar method to help us understand problems. In science, we've been taking measurements in our investigations.

Science: We've learnt about the impact of deforestation on the rainforest, food chains, ecosystems, how to classify animals and plants using classification keys, how sound is made and investigated the change in sound. We've learnt how to make predictions based on what we already know and how to use results to make a conclusion. We've learnt about what happens to our results when we don't make an investigation fair.

Music: We've learnt about rhythm, dynamics and tempo. We used percussion instruments to create a piece of music inspired by the sounds of the rainforest and then made our own instruments.

RE: Hindu Beliefs and Lifestyles linked to our comparison mini-topic on India and its rainforests. We've learnt about Brahman, Puja, Diwali, home worship and the Mandir.

Geography: We've used different maps to study the Amazon and created our own salt dough map of South America. We've learnt about climates, the Himalayas, ecosystems and deforestation.

British Values

We learnt about the important work of Fairtrade.

When learning about deforestation, we discussed and thought about our own roles in protecting our world and environments.

Promoting Health and Wellbeing

As part of English, we used researched to help us write a discursive piece of writing around the question 'Should Children be Allowed to Eat Chocolate?'

We learnt about food growing in the rainforest and as part of this had a fruit tasting session (mango, passion fruit, grapefruit, avocado, watermelon and pineapple).

We've started doing the Daily Mile!

We took part in the Premier League stars competition. As part of this, we discussed and thought a lot about resilience and considered how we can be resilient in our day to day lives.

We were visited by the Premier League trophy and Peterborough football team.

Steps to success

Met real animals of the rainforest at Bugtopia!

Used digital technology to locate rainforests

Learnt about the rainforest environment

Researched the layers of the rainforest

Found out about animals we are interested in and lead our own writing project

Learnt about the sounds of the rainforest and created our own rainforest piece of music

Made instruments.

Went on a leaf hunt to sketch leaves in detail.

Created our very own Henri Rousseau-inspired artwork.

Compared the Indian rainforests to the Amazon Rainforest.

Found out about the foods of the rainforest.

Tasted rainforest fruits.

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How will the project be evaluated?

"I loved Bugtopia because I got to see a boa constrictor!"

"I've loved running the Daily Mile."

"I loved it when we tried the rainforest food."

"In this topic, I enjoyed learning how to research about the rainforest."

"I put a snake around my neck!"

"I liked learning about and making food chains."

"I liked making and hearing the rainforest music."

