

Medium term planner – From pyramids to skyscrapers

Title and duration: From pyramids to skyscrapers

Year group: 5

Description: The theme will start with the children considering what makes up a civilisation and where and when they first appeared – putting them in chronological order and placing them on a world map. This will be followed by an in-depth study of life in Ancient Egypt; taught through an enquiry based approach and focussing on its lasting legacy. We will look at the way the ancient Egyptians built and then compare this to some of the great modern buildings of today. This topic will also incorporate our residential trip to Avon Tyrrell where the children have the opportunity to face challenges and learn to work together collaboratively whilst enjoying the outdoors.

Hook: Trip to the British Museum to see the Egyptian Exhibition

Learning value 1: Independence/ motivation/ Avon Tyrrell
Collaboration: children design and make their moon buggies.

Quality Texts: The Window, My mind (poem) The Hobbit, Paul Gallico Snow Goose

PDL:

Through the residential trip to Avon Tyrrell and the 'eco-lodger' visits; the children will have the opportunity to increase their independence and to face challenges both socially and physically. We will cover a unit on puberty during this term and link it to the whole idea of being open to change and growing up.

The children will develop their speaking and listening skills through sharing their reflections about the residential and extended trips. Children will learn to recognise and challenge common stereotypes, which they, and others make in life.

History:

The children will start with a study of where and when the first civilizations (Indus Valley, Egypt, China and Sumeria) appeared including; placing these in chronological order and looking at their legacies.

Ancient Egypt: We will look at various aspects of life at this time including the impact the River Nile had on the way they lived.

Literacy:

Persuasion – Children will use the link to the Paddington theme to write a guide to London persuading other bears to visit the capital!

Instructions – Children will investigate, plan and write instructions for 'How to become a super volcano.'

Poetry – write a metaphor poem about volcanoes.

Performance Poetry – the children will write and perform their own poems based on volcanoes and earthquakes and learn a poem by heart for homework.

Art: We will take the opportunity to look at architecture, buildings and great architects in history. We will draw, collage and work in 3D. The children will look at abstract painting and the use of colour. They will look at the work of Van Gogh focusing on his work, Starry Night.

Geography:

The children will learn about earthquakes and volcanoes and how they are linked through plate tectonics. They will learn about the sequence of a volcanic eruption and the positive and negative aspects of living nearby.

This learning will encourage children to consider the wide variety of places and the natural wonder of our world.

Application subject: P.E. The children will create a dance based on the story of the volcanic eruption of Pompeii. They will use ribbons as props to support the visual aesthetics of the piece.

PDL: The children will look at the fragility and unique nature of Earth. They will create a charter and resolve to make changes which will have a positive impact on the future of the planet.

Outcome: The children will spend 3 days either at Avon Tyrrell, staying overnight and facing a variety of challenges which they are supported and encouraged to overcome (such as climbing, abseiling, staying away from home) or with the eco-lodgers who will take a trip to the Sustainability Centre and work together in different social groups. They will learn about artists who work in natural materials. They will also produce a topic book showcasing all of their work from the term.

Potential links to local, national, international communities:

RRR and Values Links:

Environmental links and Harmony.

Home study: Children will create a fact file for the Egyptologist Howard Carter. They will also memorise a classic poem by heart.