

Our Learning next half term

Natural Disasters – Can volcanoes happen anywhere?

English:

This half term we will be exploring the book *Rhythm of the Rain*. This is tale of Issac who enjoys playing in his favourite pool on the mountainside but as the rain starts to fall, he empties his little jar of water into the pool and races the sparkling streams as they tumble over waterfalls, rush through swollen rivers and burst out into the vast open sea. He wonders, where will my little jar of water go now? This half term children will develop their ability to discuss environmental themes and the development of a deeper and richer understanding of the water cycle as well as the Earth's fresh water and salt water biomes.



Reading:

We will be exploring a range of texts through a strategy called VIPERS. VIPERS stand for the reading skills: Vocabulary, Inference, Prediction, Explanation, Retrieval and Summarise. These are the key areas which we feel children need to know and understand in order to improve their comprehension of texts.

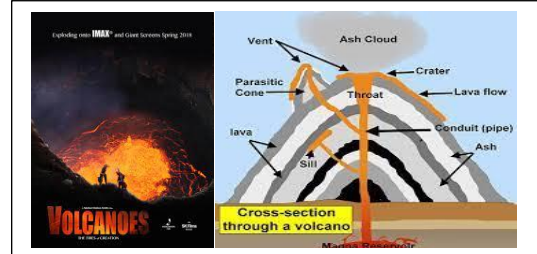
Science:

This term, we will continue our science topic on 'Living Things and their Habitats'. Pupils will recognise that living things can be grouped in a variety of ways. They will explore and use classification keys to help group, identify and name a variety of living things in their local and wider environment. They will recognise that environments can change and that this can sometimes pose dangers to living things

Music:

In music the children will continue to play Samba music, using various percussion instruments. These instruments include Agogo bells, Surdos, drums, Cuica. They will continue to learn to play solo and as part of an ensemble and will learn about rhythm and speeds and the different parts of the percussion family. In addition, he children will learn about the origins of Samba music.

History:



This term the children will know that a natural disaster is a natural event such as a flood, earthquake, volcano or hurricane that causes great damage or loss of life. They will know and describe the structure of the earth and learn that the crust and upper mantle of the earth are divided into large tectonic plates that 'float' on the liquid rock beneath. The children will be able to locate some of the world's volcanoes on a map and explain in relation to the tectonic plates. They will know that the ring of fire is a path along the Pacific Ocean where most of Earth's volcanoes and earthquakes take place. They will understand that there are pros and cons to the surrounding area of volcanoes and be able to explain these. They will be able to discuss recent natural disasters, their cause, and impact on human and physical geography (earthquake in Morocco, floods in Libya)

Maths:

After the new year, we are continuing to consolidate our knowledge of the 3, 6 and times tables and are gearing up towards mastering most of our multiplication facts for the Year 4 multiplication check later on in the year. In order to support this, we will continue to explore the 7 times tables and then move onto understanding and manipulating multiplicative relationships. Here, we will use the knowledge of distributive law to calculate products beyond known times tables facts. Alongside all this wonderful learning, we will be setting up a 'Going for Gold' display encouraging children to learn two new multiplication facts every week. We really do want all of our wonderful students to be experts

How you can support your child at home

Having conversations with your child is so very important please take the time to talk with them about current news events and anything that is important to your family. **It is also essential that you continue to take the time to read with your child and practice times tables with them daily.**

Links to websites

www.purplemash.com – Purple Mash

www.activelearnprimary.co.uk & <https://go-read.co.uk/> – Bug Club & Go Read

www.trockstars.com – TTRS. Get ready for the times tables check

www.mymaths.co.uk – My Maths

www.spellingshed.com – Spelling Shed

www.bbc.co.uk/newsround/news/watch_newsround - News & current affairs for children

www.kids-world-travel-guide.com – Children's views of different parts of the world

<https://www.foodfactoflife.org.uk/7-11-years/> - Information and learning all about food

Key Vocabulary

Practice key vocabulary with your child

Geography

TOPIC GLOSSARY FOR NATURAL DISASTERS

Tsunami	Drought	Magnitude
Earthquake	Famine	Satellites
Cyclone	Tidal Wave	Flood
Typhoon	Destruction	Volcano
Hurricane	Disaster	Fault
Tornado	Catastrophe	Devastation
Landslide	Emergency	Prediction
Avalanche	Response	Crater
Bushfire	Rescue	Eruption

Science

Vocabulary	
backbone	the bones down the middle of your back
carnivores	an animal that eats meat
cold-blooded	An animal that needs to be heated by the sun or other heat
farm	land where plants and animals are grown for food
gills	what fish use to breathe
herbivore	an animal that only eats plants
omnivore	an animal eats all kinds of food including meat and plants
pet	a tame animal kept in a household
temperature	how hot or cold something is
vertebrate	a creature which has a backbone
warm-blooded	a fairly high body temperature which does not change much and is not affected by the surrounding temperature
wild	animals or plants that live or grow without being looked after by people

Music

- Samba
- carnival
- solo
- unison
- ensemble
- Allegro
- Beat/pulse
- orchestra
- percussion
- metre

All your teachers can't wait to welcome you all back happy, healthy and safe after the break.

All of the Year 4 Teachers