

Learning Experience

To inspire the children at the start of this Learning Experience, they will be visited by the Rainforest Roadshow, where they will explore rainforests in depth and the animals and people that are found within them.

Geography

Through Geography, the children will investigate the question: where in the world are rainforests? They will develop the skills needed to locate them on world maps and make connections between geographical location, climate and vegetation. The children will also explore what rainforests are like by looking at these aspects: temperature, structure and inhabitants; and investigate why they are important to us and what they provide. They will develop a good understanding of the issues of deforestation, the use of palm oil and its effects on rainforest animals like orangutans. Finally, they will explore the changes that are happening to rainforests and research the impact these are having.

Science

In Science, the children will be classifying animals and plants, microorganisms as well as the features and functions of flowering plants. They will also explore how plants adapt so they are able to survive in the rainforest. Further learning will be about photosynthesis - how plants produce their own food - which will be linked to how layers of the rainforest behave and differ to each other. Finally, the children will be comparing the life cycles and characteristics of birds and mammals.

Art

During our Art sessions, the children will be exploring the tribal culture of the Yawanawa people of Brazil along with the vegetation and the wildlife that are found in a rainforest habitat. They will develop their fine motor skills by sketching, drawing and painting the animals and plants, using different forms of media to produce variation in texture and colour. They will be exploring and being inspired by the work of John Dyer and recreating work in the same style.

English

To start this Learning Experience, the children will begin to read "Journey to the River Sea" by Eva Ibbotson. The children will focus on the use of creative writing to bring a setting to life. They will use their knowledge to write detailed descriptions of a rainforest setting, as well as a fact file about the Amazon rainforest. The children will be using the features of persuasive writing to express an opinion about the use of Palm Oil - something we know they will be very passionate about.

Maths

Exploring numbers up to 10 million, considering the value of digits within them and comparing, ordering and rounding them (including negative numbers) will be the initial focus for Maths at the start of the term. Following this, the children will revise mental and written strategies for addition and subtraction. They will then move onto focusing on factors, multiples, prime numbers, square and cube numbers. In addition, they will be revising mental and written strategies for multiplication and division and using these to further develop reasoning skills.

Under Threat!

Year 6

Challenge - The children will be writing a persuasive piece about the advantages and disadvantages of using palm oil.

Creativity - The children will develop their fine art skills, using the style and techniques of John Dyer.

Rationale:

In this experience, the children will locate rainforests and explore the issues concerning these habitats around the world. A visit from the Rainforest Roadshow will give them some first-hand experience of this kind of habitat and the animals and people that are found in them. The children will develop a deeper understanding of all living things and how plants and animals have adapted to their environment. In addition to this, they will create artwork inspired by the colours and textures of John Dyer's pieces.

Start Date: 07/09/26

End Date: 23/10/26

Hook: The children will be visited by the Rainforest Roadshow on a date to be confirmed. During the day, the children will have the opportunity to: explore life in the Rainforest, look at some live invertebrates, explore tribal artefacts and make tribal jewellery.

Outcome: The children will display their rainforest artwork inspired by John Dyer in an Art Gallery for parents and family to visit. The date of the Gallery opening will **Thursday 22nd October 2026 at 3.15pm in classrooms.**

Computing:

The children will design branching databases for younger users about rainforests. They will also plan and create a presentation about a rainforest animal. They will complete a lesson on online safety.

Take home tasks:

Choose from one, or even more, of the following. Alternatively, choose something of your own - get creative!

- Produce a 2D or 3D rainforest habitat
- Create a detailed and illustrated fact file about rainforest animals
- Produce a PPT about the endangered species found in the rainforest
- Write an adventure story set in the rainforest

Hand in date: Friday 16th October 2026

How you can support your child at home:

- Use maps to locate rainforests and discuss the environmental issues surrounding them.
- Explore what life is like in the rainforest and the people/animals that are found there.
- Learn times tables facts up to 12 x 12 - recall should be quick and accurate. Spend 10 minutes daily on TT Rockstars.
- Ensure that your child reads at least 5 times a week and has the opportunity to discuss their reading, with you. Please could you ensure this is recorded in their reading record.
- Ensure they complete their weekly Maths homework to a high quality and hand it in on time.
- Make sure they complete the weekly spelling task and hand it in on time.