

Year 4 Learning Web

Spring 1 2017

English Focus

- We will be using our water-based learning theme as a basis for our writing.
- We will be using a variety of non-fiction texts to research Antarctic explorers, and will be writing a diary entry taking on the identity of one of these famous explorers.
- Further writing will include setting and character description, water-inspired poetry, and using persuasive language in letters and advertisements.
- We will be continuing our focus on self-editing skills and up-levelling our sentences - using ambitious vocabulary, conjunctions, fronted adverbials, punctuation, paragraphs and sentence variety.

Knowledge and Understanding

Learning challenge: How would we survive without water?

Our key areas of learning will be:

- Physical geography including climate zones, mountains and the water cycle.
- Human geography including conditions of environment and the distribution of natural resources, including water.
- Geographical skills – using maps and atlases to locate mountainous and non-mountainous regions.
- Locational knowledge – locating the Arctic, Antarctic and Africa, and identifying key physical and human characteristics.
- In our RE lessons, we will be learning about Christian prayer and worship. We will also be reflecting upon the importance of charity and, in line with our water topic, thinking about how we can raise money to help Water Aid.

Numeracy Focus

Key areas of learning:

- Data handling - different types of graphs (discrete and continuous data).
- Money - totalling amounts of money, finding change and budgeting.
- Measures - capacity and reading scales.
- Multiplication & division (mental and written methods).

STEM (including Computing and Science) and Health and Wellbeing

Learning challenge: So, where did my snowman go?

Science:

Our learning will be all about water. We have many scientific investigations planned to help us answer questions we raised during our knowledge harvest just before Christmas. These will include scientific investigations related to:

- States of matter - solids, liquids and gases
- Melting and freezing
- Condensation
- Evaporation
- The water cycle

PE:

4T: Competitive games. Please bring in a pair of tracksuit bottoms/joggers in addition to full PE kit for lessons taking place outside.

4B: Swimming for 4B only. Swimming will take place on a Tuesday afternoon. Please make sure your child has their

Creativity

- In week 4, we will be taking one picture and having an entire week focused on **A Sunday on La Grande Jatte** by George Seurat. Not only will we be experimenting with his 'optical mixture' colouring technique in our art lessons, but we will also be using the artwork as a focus for our learning in English, Science and Computing.
- For our Design Technology lessons, we will be becoming product designers and creating our own thirst-quenching drink and its accompanying packaging.

Ways you can help at home...

- Read little and often each day. We will be reading for meaning and understanding. Ask lots of questions about the text and encourage the children to form opinions. When possible, please sign reading records showing your child's reading as we like to positively acknowledge readers in class.
- In Year 4, we aim to know all of our times tables up to 12x12 and the corresponding division facts. Please support children in practising these when and where they can to help them secure these.
- Encourage the children to complete their homework and hand it in on time.