

Year group: 5

Term 6: The Ancient Maya

Geography

Through our 'Biomes' unit, we explore the world's many different biomes, understanding that a biome is a large area of land with a particular climate, types of plants (flora) and animals (fauna). We explore how biomes have distinct climatic conditions, flora and fauna.

Maths

We begin with 'Shape' and measure and calculate angles. We progress to 'Position and Direction' where we read and plot coordinates and learn how to use translation and reflection. In 'Negative Numbers' we learn how to count through zero, compare, order and find the difference between positive and negative numbers.

Art

We learn about Guatemalan masks and iconic Mexican art. We use chalk pastel and represent dark and light tones in our study of masks before designing and making our own mask. Linking to our history, we produce an artist study on Frederick Catherwood.

History

We learn about the achievements of the ancient Maya civilization, with a focus on the period leading up to the height of the civilization in AD 900. We shall consider the sources of evidence that form our understanding of this period of world history while contrasting it with comparable themes from British history.

English

We read 'The Rain Player' by David Wisniewski, which is an ancient Maya tale of a boy who must defeat the Rain God in a game of pok-a-tok to save his village from a terrible drought, to write a character and setting description. This will lead us to writing our own cultural narrative linked to the cacao bean.

ICT

We will be creating vector drawings. Year 5 will learn how to use different drawing tools to help them create images. We will begin to layer and begin to group and duplicate them to support the creation of more complex pieces of work.

PSHE

This term we will be looking at our changing bodies. We will learn about puberty, human reproduction and what to look forward to about growing up and the changes that involves.

Science

In our 'Living things and their Habitats' unit, we learn about the process of reproduction and the life cycles of plants, mammals, amphibians, insects and birds. We explore reproduction in different plants, including methods of pollination and asexual reproduction. We compare gestation periods of animals.

PE: We develop skills in outdoor adventurous activities and volleyball. PE days are Wednesday and Thursday.

Music: We will look at musical terms, learn about popular artists and practise our composition.

Spanish: We will learn how to describe people's features and learn about adjectival agreement.