

Gorseybrigg Primary School and Nursery

Curriculum Matters



Term **Summer 1**
Year Group **5**
Teacher **Mrs R MacLeod**

Please note that not all subject areas will necessarily be taught each term and we cannot write down everything we teach!

Topic

Vamos!

This term we will be studying Brazil. Our topic will include:

- Location, climate and tourist destinations
- Rainforest features and landscape
- Environmental concerns including deforestation

We will consider traditional Brazilian customs and cultures, farming and exports and use maps to support our understanding.

Literacy

Our class book is *The Explorer* by Katherine Rundell – a compelling and exciting new adventure story about the Brazilian rainforest. If your child can access their own copy, that would be great. We will be comparing this with other novels and writing our own adventure stories.

We will read and write descriptive poetry and science information texts.

In grammar lessons we will be looking at tense choices to link ideas. In spelling sessions we will be extending our knowledge of root words, prefixes and suffixes as well as dictionary and thesaurus skills.

Numeracy

Maths topics for this term include:

- Position and direction including co-ordinates in four quadrants
- Perimeter and area
- Measuring volume
- Angles and triangles
- 2D and 3D shape

We will also be revisiting number topics taught so far this year.

Design Technology

In DT we will try a variety of healthy dips and salads, follow instructions to make salsa and evaluate our results. We will then decide on what changes to make in order to improve our recipe. As this topic includes tasting food, please let school know of any food allergies.

Science

Our science topic is Life Cycles, Growth and Change. We will look at the processes of reproduction in plants, insects, amphibians, birds and mammals. We will learn about the development of humans from conception to birth. Looking at childhood changes, we will study the developmental milestones in the first years of life, adolescence and adulthood. This will include whole class (boys and girls) work on menstruation.

PSHE

To link with our science topic, our PSHE work will cover the physical and emotional changes that happen during puberty. If you would like to look at the teaching resources we plan to use, please contact school.

Helping at Home

Reading

It is fantastic to see children bringing their own copies of recommended books to school and reading these with enjoyment. Thank-you for your support.

To complement our class book, children might enjoy *Journey to the River Sea* by *Eva Ibbotson* – one of my favourite children’s writers! This is a fantastic book for more able readers and a super audio CD is available for less able readers. Children who like a challenge might also enjoy *The Abominables* and *One Dog and His Boy* while easier reads include *Which Witch* and *The Ogre of Oglefort*.

If you wish to follow up our science and PSHE work at home, I recommend *What’s Happening to Me?* (Usborne books). There are two versions (boys and girls) and both are available for tablets as well as in book form.

Maths

Problem-solving at home really supports work at school. This might include discussion of prices (e.g. how to calculate the best offer in a supermarket or restaurant), time problems (e.g. how long to travel to a location, average speeds and imperial/metric conversions) and measuring problems (e.g. how to convert a recipe for differing numbers of people). Fun maths websites that your children might enjoy include Murderous Maths for more able children and Maths Mysteries for those who need more support – just google these to find the sites easily.