

Year 5 – Autumn 2: What makes the rainforest remarkable?

Through some of our key texts (see below), we will be learning about journalistic writing and the techniques involved in this. We will then apply these skills and techniques as part of our own report about the rainforests which we will aim to film and share with an audience. As part of our work on the repatriation of historical artifacts we will be writing a letter to the Sainsbury Centre outlining why we think the objects should remain in the UK or be returned to their country of origin. We will learn to use persuasive language effectively as well as building a bank of ambitious, topic specific vocabulary. Through guided reading, we will explore a range of different text types to learn more about the Benin Kingdom.

What we're writing:

- A journalistic article
- A persuasive letter

What we're reading:

- Children of the Benin Kingdom (by Dinah Orji)



Humanities: History, Geography, Art, Modern Foreign Languages, RE, Music, RSHE.

As **historians**, we will apply our knowledge of the rainforests and study the Benin Kingdom, which is now known as Oba, Nigeria. We will explore the kingdom from its beginnings in the 900's through to its eventual demise in 1897, when it was invaded by Britain and made part of the British Empire. We will look at primary resources to make inferences about the people of Benin and their beliefs. We will also explore different artifacts held in British Museums and whether they should be returned to their home countries.

As **geographers**, we will use atlases to identify the location of the Benin Kingdom and where this lies within modern boundaries. We will discuss its significance in West Africa considering the influence of physical geographical features.

As **artists**, we will learn about the symbolism of animals in the Kingdom of Benin and make a clay sculpture inspired by the Benin bronzes.

As **philosophers**, in Religion and Worldview's, we will be exploring the question 'What can we learn about the world from great philosophers?' We will explore the views of different philosophers and how their ideas might influence the way we think.

In **PSHE**, we will learn about building and maintaining positive, healthy relationships. We will learn about different types of families and how some children may become young carers.

As **linguists**, we will be learning the days of the week, months of the year and numbers 1-31, so that we are able to say the date and when our birthdays are.

Humanities Vocabulary	Definition
Deforestation	The action of clearing a wide area of tree by cutting them down (felling).
Logging	The activity of felling tree, as well as cutting and preparing the timber
Cattle ranching	An area of land used to raise livestock (for example, cattle, chickens, and sheep)
Oba	The chief (leader) of a local area in Nigeria.
Kingdom	A country, state or territory ruled by a king or queen.
Fairtrade	An arrangement to help those living and working in developing countries to be paid a fair wage for their hard work.
Repatriation	The return or someone or something to its country of origin.

As **musicians**, we will learn about rhythm and notation and apply these in a variety of creative ways. In choir, we will be learning a variety of Christmas songs and will learn to perform these in unison and in two parts.

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As **computer scientists**, we will be learning about a range of different filming techniques, including how best to edit and sequence different recorded sequences. We will export the finished video and evaluate the effectiveness of the editing techniques used.

As **scientists**, we will be finding out about the process of pollination in plants and the role of the different parts of a flower. We will also look at the life cycles of a variety of different plants (flowering and non-flowering) and animals. This will include adaptations which allow certain animals and plants to thrive in their environment.

Science, Technology, Engineering and mathematics (STEM): Computing, Design Technology, Math, PE, Science.

As **mathematicians**, we will be learning about fractions, specifically finding equivalent fractions, converting and comparing fractions and adding and subtracting fractions. We will continue to work on multiplication, improving our fluency, accuracy and speed of recall. Please continue to work of these at home too!

As **sportspeople**, we will be going swimming this half term. We will have instruction so that we are able to feel more confident in the water and to be able to swim 25m.

At school, we will be taking part in a range of fielding and striking games to develop skill such as accurate throwing, hand eye coordination, precision and power and confident catching. We will learn to use these skills effectively in a range of competitive situations.

STEM Vocabulary	Definition
Fractions	A numerical quantity that is not a whole number
Equivalent fractions	Fractions that represent the same value , even though they may look different
Numerator	The top number of a fraction, indicating the number of parts out of the whole
Denominator	The bottom number of fraction indicating the total number of equal parts.
Improper fractions	This is when the numerator is greater than the denominator and therefor the fraction is greater than 1 whole.
Pollination	The act of transferring pollen grains from the male anther of a flower to the female stigma.
Stigma	The female reproductive part of the flower
Anther/Stamen	The male reproductive part of the flower.

Optional Activities:

Whilst we don't set any formal homework at Avenue Junior School, we are passionate about reading and therefore ask that your child reads for at least 10 minutes a day. The benefits of this are wide ranging and can be felt across the curriculum. In time, children will have access to school library books, and they have books from the classroom too.

It is lovely to do some additional activities at home linked to our work in school and so below we've given a few suggestions of activities you might like to try:

- Make a sculpture of the Parthenon, on the Acropolis in Greece – it could be from kitchen roll tubes, paper, card, papier Mache or something else!
- Research some of the sports and activities from the Ancient Greek period – create a presentation explaining about these pastimes and you could have a go at them too.
- Find a Greek myth that you love. Read it and come and talk to your class all about it and why you love it.
- Research food from the Ancient Greek period. Recreate your own Greek dish or write a recipe for others to follow.
- Design your own labyrinth. It could be made of straws, string or wood or a drawn version!

ClassDojo:

We love to see the work children and families have been doing at home.

Please do send us pictures through ClassDojo and we will make sure that these are celebrated in class!

Likewise, if children have any notable achievements or events outside of school (running, swimming medals, football tournaments etc), we love to hear about these too!



ClassDojo