



# Amazing Amazon



Long Mynd Class Spring Term 2022

## Overview & Key Questions

In our geography topic, children will learn about the truly amazing Amazon and how it compares to other rivers. They will investigate the human impact on this natural paradise and use a range of sources, including maps and non-fiction texts, to study the physical geography of the river and its surrounding area. The indigenous wildlife will also feature as we look at creatures and their habitats. *Where is The Amazon Basin? What is the climate of the Amazonian Rainforest? How does deforestation impact The Amazon Rainforest? What are the similarities and differences between UK and South American physical geography? Where does a river come from?*

### Maths

Maths continues to follow the National Curriculum and will link to our topic, as the class records data about the length of rivers and compares the climates of the UK and Brazil. We will be covering fractions and decimals, money, co-ordinates, time, multiplication and division. You can support your child in this subject by rehearsing times table facts. Our subscription to My Maths allows use at home; this contains lessons as well as homework tasks.

### English

English lessons will focus on stories based in the rainforest, with a particular focus on how punctuation marks help a reader. Texts will also include environmental poetry, and persuasive writing based on ecological issues. You can help your child in this subject by practising the year 3 and 4 statutory spelling list <https://tinyurl.com/2asrt5mx>

## Hooks & Highlights

The class will explore river features by walking to the river Worfe as it meanders through our local area. We are also planning other opportunities using the local area – more information to follow.

## Science

Our Science theme for this term is all about changing environments and how these changes can sometimes pose dangers to living things. We will also investigate sound and how sounds are made.

## Religious Education & Christian Values

This term's themes are: 'What does it mean to be a Hindu in Britain today?' and 'Why do Christians call the day Jesus died Good Friday?' This term's Christian values are 'Friendship', and 'Respect'.

## The Wider Curriculum

Art, Design Technology and Music will be linked to the theme as we make carnival masks inspired by rainforest animals. Long Mynd will create mixed media collages based on the jungle landscapes of Rousseau; we will also use ICT to create our own layered images of rainforest scenes. As well as composing our own rainforest music, we will listen to South American rhythms and music from indigenous rainforest tribes from around the world. In our geography topic, children will learn about the truly amazing Amazon and how it compares to other rivers. They will investigate the human impact on this natural paradise and use a range of sources, including maps and non-fiction texts, to study the physical geography of the river and its surrounding area. The indigenous wildlife will also feature as we look at creatures and their habitats. PE will include a variety of team games and dance, which will be inspired by the animals of the rainforest. In French lessons, building on our learning from last term, we will learn how to create simple sentences and ask and respond to questions as well as comparing and contrasting life for children in France with our own.

## Homework Project

A separate handout will follow. To summarise, the Amazonian rainforest, with the Amazon River snaking its way through it, is an amazing place! It has the most varied plant life on Earth, with about 50,000 different species. Please choose an animal that can be found in the Amazonian rainforest: perhaps a tree frog or salamander, one of the many species of monkey, an interesting insect (Brazil has tens of thousands of butterflies) or one of the many hundreds of types of birds. Carefully draw, paint or make a model of your chosen animal (make it as accurate as possible – but not necessarily life-size!). You might like to use different kinds of pencils if you have them at home; try a 2B or 4B for shading. There will be an accompanying written task.

## Key Routines & Dates

Spelling homework is tested on Mondays. Your child will also receive, alternately, an English or Maths task, also to be handed in the following Monday please. Information will also be found via Class Dojo. Please don't hesitate to contact us if you have any questions. Safer Internet Day this year is 8<sup>th</sup> February <https://www.saferinternetday.org/home>

