

History

In this topic, the children will explore the ancient Maya civilisation, from their impressive architecture to the Maya writing system and examples of the Maya 'glyphs'. Children will delve into their history to find out what happened during the invasion by the Spanish conquistadores!

In addition, the children will find out about Charles Darwin and why his work is so important to us today when understanding evolution and inheritance.

Geography

This half-term, the children will:

- Use world maps and satellite images to locate Mexico, identifying which hemisphere it is in and the countries that surround it.
- Locate some of the main cities of the ancient Maya civilisation on a map of South America.
- Explore the Galápagos – virtually! Use photos, videos, websites, maps and digital mapping tools to identify the unique climatic conditions and geological make up of the Islands.
- Use digital conservation maps, websites and books to identify and list animal species that are at risk of extinction.
- Summarise, in their own words, why they think the Galápagos Islands developed such rich biodiversity.

PE

Children will be developing their athletics and rounders skills this half-term in preparation for Sports Day!

PSHE

This half-term, the children will be starting an exciting entrepreneurial challenge to make something, sell it and make a profit with a limited budget. A portion of the proceeds will then be donated to the well-known charity Barnardo's. Let's see who can rise to the challenge!

Welcome to Mexico! Explore this unique country with its towering temples and stunning geography. Rich in history belonging to the Maya civilisation, get ready to be amazed and have your taste buds tantalised!

HOLA MEXICO!



Art/DT

In this topic, the children will:

- Read a range of recipes for traditional and contemporary Mexican fruit drinks and choose one to make.
- Find out about the Maya chocolate making process and then make their own chocolate experimenting with different flavours.
- Taste foods enjoyed and in some cases introduced to the world by the ancient Maya civilisation, including avocado, guacamole, tortilla, sweet potato, squash, papaya, a Horchata drink (a blend of milk, sugar, ground almonds and vanilla) and salsa.
- Work outdoors to sketch plants, flowers and trees, looking carefully to accurately capture their shape, form, pattern and colour.
- Use fine ink pens to make detailed drawings in their sketch books of different types of shells.

Science

This half-term, children will be focussing on the topic evolution and inheritance, whilst revising over the topics covered in Year 6. These include classification and adaptation, light, blood and heart, and electricity. In addition, they will also be extending their investigation skills whilst carrying out various experiments.



Maths

This half-term, year 6 will be focussing on:

- The mean average
- Pie Charts
- Line graphs
- Negative numbers
- Conversions of miles to kilometres

Literacy

Children will be reading the novel *Journey to the River Sea* by Eva Ibbotson and composing various pieces of writing. Year 6 children will also create a holiday brochure for Mexico.

HOME LEARNING IDEAS

Which part of Mexico would you prefer to live in, and why? Write down your ideas and share them with others in your class.

Find out about Mexican flowers, trees and animals. Some are very different to those found in the UK! Record what you learn in a notebook or picture chart.

Do your family or friends know anyone who has been to Mexico? If so, can you talk to the person and find out more? What is their impression of the country?

In Mexico, the most common spoken language is Spanish. Can you find out how to say some phrases in Spanish? Do you know anyone who speaks Spanish? Impress them with a Spanish conversation!

Design and build a Maya temple/structure using junk materials, such as cardboard boxes, newspaper and card.

How much do other people know about Mexico? Create questions for a fun quiz and try it out on family or friends.

Plan an imaginary trip or holiday to Mexico. Look at holiday brochures or research online. How many ways are there to get there? How long would it take? How much would it cost? Make an itinerary for your trip, showing what you would like to see and do while you are there.

Make a typical Mexican dish, such as guacamole or tacos.

Find out more about Maya hieroglyphs and symbols. Can you write your name or a short message to a friend?

Go to the supermarket and see if you can find out about any food that is imported from Mexico - try fruit or vegetables.