



USA – LAND OF THE FREE

YEAR 5/6

AUTUMN 2020-2021

FOCUS CURRICULUM PRINCIPLES - (1) BROAD, RELEVANT AND BALANCED.

(2) VALUING ALL CHILDREN, LEARNING IS ACCESSIBLE TO ALL.



KEY AREA OF LEARNING - GEOGRAPHY/HISTORY

Our key area of learning this term will be in geography where we will be completing a study comparing the human and physical geographical differences between the USA and the Isle of Wight. Features we will be focusing on include types of settlement, land use and distribution of natural resources whilst with physical geography we will be looking at their climate zones, biomes, vegetation belts, and mountains (USA only). We will also be looking at key events in American history and placing them on a timeline and from there focus on specific areas including its discovery and race relations.

SCIENCE

Properties and changing materials – We will be focusing on the properties and changes a variety of solids, liquids and gases can go through. Investigations involving mixing and dissolving in order to identify reversible and irreversible challenges. We will also be learning how to separate mixtures using filtering, sieving and also evaporating. The class will further be looking at the properties of specific materials and they will be working out appropriate uses for them.

ENGLISH

We are going to be focusing on 'Pax' which is a story about a boy and his pet fox as they both go on a journey to find each other again after being split apart. The stories narrative structure will enable us to create our own exciting narratives, particularly focused around the voice used in the two perspectives of events. There will also be opportunities for diary writing and a discussion text about the characters. We will also be creating a non-fiction piece about the great attractions of the Isle of Wight, This will be based off of the style used in the non-fiction text, 'The National Parks of the USA'.

MATHS

Much of the focus in the first few weeks back will be on place value and being able to compare, order and round numbers up to and into the millions. They will also be exploring negative numbers and Roman numerals. The children will then move on to practising using the column method to answer addition and subtraction questions, including problems. From there they will move to working with line graphs, tables and timetables, before going back to calculation work and practicing multiplying and dividing by powers of 10. The term will conclude with work on area and perimeter and how to calculate this for a variety of shapes.

HOMEWORK

There will be weekly homework in spelling and maths, with a bi weekly rotation of reading and literacy homework. There will be two longer home tasks for the duration of each half term as well.

COMPUTING

Along with two E-Safety sessions at the beginning of each half term, we will be learning how to edit photos in a pop art style, edit PowerPoints to improve them, create a database on the presidents of American as well as completing a coding project.

PE

Taking Covid restrictions into account we will be learning a range of tag rugby skills at the beginning of term, moving on to practicing for cross country and then finishing the term with basketball. We will also be doing weekly forest school sessions.

FRENCH

During this term we will be focusing on being able to tell the time, asking a variety of questions and expressing our likes and dislikes.

PSHE/SMSC

Social – Teamwork within class, particularly through the creation of our 'stomp' music which involves whole class cooperation.
Cultural – Looking at aspects of American history and how the country came to be (Child Led)
Moral – Looking at the moral implications of American independence, treatment of natives and land use.
Spiritual – Constant referral to issues around spirituality in workshops (class and whole)

TRIPS/VISITORS

Due to restrictions from Covid we have decided not to hold any school trips this term but we are planning on having a risk day for the children which we will announce during the term.

ART

We will be learning about pop art styles by Andy Warhol and Roy Lichtenstein and from this creating printing based pieces using foam and block colour painting. We will also create a collage of the flag of the USA too.

DT

In order to experience popular American foods, we will be tasting a range where we will be reviewing them to ascertain the class's favourite. This will lead into the creation of a pancake recipe and then the pancakes themselves.

MUSIC

We will be using the theme of 'Stomp' for our music this half term. This will be focusing on using everyday objects and our bodies to create music. There will be a particular focus on rhythm.

RE

At the end of the first half term we will be learning about law and Jesus' relationship with it and then at the end of the term we will learn about prophecy through the Magi and birth narratives.