



Year 5: Autumn Term

Our Learning Journey



Have you ever wondered how the Ancient Egyptians mummified a human? Have you ever gazed at pictures of the pyramids and wanted to know more? In Year 5 we are going to delve back around 5000 years to explore the Ancient World.

Using our class text, 'Secrets of a Sun King' (by Emma Carroll) as a stimulus, we will hurtle back in time by about 5000 years to around 3100 BC. A time when mummification was rife, hieroglyphics were the way of communicating and pharaohs ruled the land.

As we cautiously venture into the depths of an ancient tomb, we consider the role of archaeologists in historical revelations and look forward to analysing hieroglyphics in order to understand the mummification process and the religious reasoning behind this ancient act.



Following the instructions of an expert embalmer, we will mummify an orange, likening each step to the process used by the Ancient Egyptians to preserve their special people.

Bringing our history knowledge together, we will design and create our very own Egyptian tiles using the medium of mod rock. We will then paint the tiles to reflect authentic designs from the ancient Egyptian period.

Ancient civilisations were developing all over the world. How did their architectural feats compare to those built by the Egyptians? Armed with our deep knowledge of the Ancient Egyptians, we will be able to compare other areas of the Ancient World.



After half-term, we will become explorers and travel around the world, beginning our journey in the UK and reaching our final destination in Brazil, South America.

As Geographers, we can't wait to explore and consider both the physical and human aspects of the world in which we live, including the vegetation, the climate, the people and the landmarks.

Our learning begins in the heart of the United Kingdom, Nottinghamshire, before our scope widens to the surrounding counties. How many counties are in the UK? Which ones are bordering Nottinghamshire? And what are their main cities? Before we head off to Brazil, we will consider the travel time and distance involved, using scale to estimate the distance 'as the crow flies', which is only the beginning of our exploration of maps, atlases and grid references.



Our class text, Katherine Rundell's 'The Explorer', will complement and strengthen our learning as it is set in the Amazon Rainforest in South America. Our first writing outcome is to innovate the narrative from the text by planning our own 'problem' faced by the children when stranded in the Amazon rainforest after their plane crashes. How will they overcome this and will they survive?

Using our knowledge of the equator, we will investigate how the location of a place impacts its physical and human characteristics. We will strengthen our knowledge of a biome and identify how the rainforest is different to the temperate deciduous biome of the UK.

Our studies will lead us to consider why certain animals and plants are suited to particular habitats. A series of scientific investigations will develop our ability to work and think scientifically as we look at Earth's living things and their habitats around the world.



Tying in with exploring the religious beliefs of the Ancient Egyptians, RE will involve exploring the customs and practices of a range of modern day religions to discover how they show devotion and commitment.

Year 5 will have the opportunity to explore a variety of PE skills in the first half of the Autumn term through our 'multi-skills' topic. We will also be furthering our striking and fielding skills through learning the skills and rules of cricket. In the second half of the Autumn term we will explore carnival dance that will tie in with our Geography topic looking at South America.

In computing, we are going to use iPads to create our own media videos, including planning, filming and editing. We will then explore databases to extract information about different countries as part of our ongoing geography learning.



In Science, we will also be exploring different properties of materials, including investigating magnetism, conductivity and reversible and irreversible reactions. Do all materials dissolve? Can you get the material back again?

In Maths we are building on our knowledge of place value and effective methods for addition, subtraction, multiplication and division.

In our new Spanish lessons we will begin to learn the foundations, starting with the phonics of Spanish and then moving into the basics of the Spanish language followed by an introduction into animals.

In Music, we will be composing and performing with tuned percussion, building on our knowledge of different notations. After half term we will be focusing on our singing skills, ready for our fantastic Christmas Carol Concert.

