

**Year 4**  
**Term – Spring 1**

**This term we will be learning...**

Following the Science unit of 'Living Things and their Habitats', we are going to learn about the Amazon.

Initially, we will learn about where the Amazon is, what it is like and how it compares to eco-systems in other biomes.

After that, we are going to learn about the human impact on the Amazon – be prepared for your children to transform into empowered eco-warriors!

**The Amazon**



**Educational Visits**

Kew Gardens  
Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2018

**Key Information**

- The Amazon is the world's largest tropical rainforest. Covering over 5.5 million square kilometres, it's so big that the UK and Ireland would fit into it 17 times!
- The Amazon is found in South America, spanning across Brazil, Bolivia, Peru, Ecuador, Colombia, Venezuela, Guyana, Suriname and French Guiana.
- Running through the north of the rainforest is the Amazon river. Flowing a length of around 6,400km, it is the second longest river in the world. The longest is the river Nile, stretching an even longer 6,650km!
- Around 400-500 indigenous Amerindian tribes call the Amazon rainforest home. It's believed that about fifty of these tribes have never had contact with the outside world!
- The Amazon has an incredibly rich ecosystem – there are around 40,000 plant species, 1,300 bird species, 3,000 types of fish, 430 mammals and a whopping 2.5 million different insects. Wow!
- The Amazon is home to a whole host of fascinating – and deadly – creatures, including electric eels, flesh eating piranhas, poison dart frogs, jaguars and some seriously venomous snakes.
- This area of immense natural beauty is sometimes referred to as 'the lungs of the Earth'.

## English

- In Reading children will learn to explore an author's viewpoint by considering the words that the author has chosen to use.
- In English, children will learn to use the full range of punctuation and to evaluate and edit their own writing. This half term's key texts are '**The Heart and the Bottle**' by Oliver Jeffers and '**The Great Kapok Tree**' by Lynn Cherry.

## Science

### Living Things and their Habitats:

Children will learn to sort and classify living things. Then they will consider how environmental change can be dangerous for wildlife.

## Mathematics

Measurement

Pupils will learn to:

- Recognise and show equivalent fractions
- Recognise and use fractions as numbers
- Count up and down in hundredths
- Divide 1 and 2 digit numbers by 10 or 100

## Computing

### Coding

Children will use Espresso to learn how to code. They will learn how to program an app and how to 'debug' if it all goes wrong!

## You might like to join in with our learning at home by:

<p><b>Reading</b> Talk about an author's viewpoint and discuss facts and opinions.</p>	<p><b>Watching</b> <a href="https://www.bbc.co.uk/education/clips/zfp34wx">https://www.bbc.co.uk/education/clips/zfp34wx</a></p>
<p><b>Doing</b> Go for walks, talk about the wildlife that you can see in the city and discuss the impact that humans can have, positive and negative.</p>	<p><b>Visiting</b> Visit the aquarium or go to the zoo or city farm and talk about the different habitats and biomes that the animals and plant life live in naturally.</p>