

PLANET EARTH

This term, our Year 5 / 6 children will embark on an exciting journey of discovery through our topic, 'Planet Earth'. In response to parents asking how they can support with their child's learning at home, we have included some suggestions that we hope will inspire conversations and activities to complement what we're exploring in school but there is no expectation for these to be completed.

Is Earth really a 'blue planet'?

At home: Explore online maps (e.g., Google Earth) and discuss how Earth looks from space versus close-up views of your local area. Watch nature documentaries together, such as *Planet Earth* or *Our Planet*, and discuss the unique features of different biomes.

Why do natural resources matter?

At home: Discuss everyday ways to reduce waste, save water, or conserve energy as a family. Conduct a mini plastic audit of your household and discuss ways to reduce plastic use.

Can I classify living things using the Linnaean system?

At home: Visit a local park or garden and classify plants and animals you find using a simple guide. Research Carl Linnaeus online and create a simple chart of living things classified into kingdoms.

Can we create a flat-file database?

At home: Discuss examples of databases you use in daily life (e.g., phone contacts, online shopping). Encourage your child to organise something at home (e.g., books or DVDs) into a simple list.

What is the life process of a plant?

At home: Examine flowers or plants in your garden and identify their parts. Collect seeds from fruit or plants and discuss how they might travel in nature.

What are the life processes of living things that are not animals or plants?

At home: Bake bread or make pizza dough and observe how yeast (a type of fungus) makes it rise. Discuss how microorganisms are helpful (e.g., in food production) and harmful (e.g., causing illness).

Can we make a soft toy to sell at Peak Wildlife Park?

At home: Encourage your child to share their ideas and practice simple sewing techniques.

Can art send a powerful message?

At home: Discuss artworks you've seen together and the messages they convey. Experiment with simple art techniques like printing or sketching.

Outdoor Learning Opportunities

Throughout the term, we will engage in outdoor learning activities, such as fieldwork to explore plastic pollution and investigating wildlife. Encourage your child to share their outdoor experiences and explore nature together as a family.

English lessons will focus on writing narratives, biographies, and discussion texts related to environmental themes and activism. We will be reading 2 class books - 'Floodland' and 'The Boy at the Back of the Class'. *At home:* Encourage your child to read at least 3 times a week for 20 minutes. Practise spelling words from the year 3 / 4 and year 5 / 6 spelling lists.

Mathematics will delve into crucial concepts including fractions, decimals, and percentages, strengthening their understanding of these fundamental skills. *At home:* Practise converting between fractions, decimals and percentages and continue to support your child's quick, accurate recall of times table facts.

Please ensure your child comes to school in appropriate PE clothing on their PE days. This comprises: black joggers, house hoodie and house T-shirt. Suitable black trainers must also be worn.

Thank you for your continued support. If you have any questions about our learning this term, please don't hesitate to get in touch.