

# Life: Beast Creator

Year 5/6 - Term 5



Our project for this half term, 'Beast Creator', will teach the children about minibeasts from arachnids to insects, molluscs to myriapods.

We will learn all about these small but powerful creatures, exploring classification and asking questions to help us group and sort. How many legs? How many wings? Who does it eat and who eats it?

We will begin our topic by researching the world's deadliest minibeasts and where they live. Where in the world are the most dangerous insects? How can they cause harm?

We will undertake a minibeast investigation, searching for minibeasts within the school grounds. Through Design and Technology, we will create homes for our local minibeasts by designing and making a bug hotel. We will use natural resources and choose a safe and appropriate place for insects to thrive.

In Science, we will explore life cycles of insects (such as butterflies) and identify the features of plants, considering the reproductive processes of plants, learning more about the living world that minibeasts call home.

By the end of the topic, children will have a wider understanding of minibeasts and of the features that help them survive in their habitats.

## English

In English this term, we are going to base our writing on the Science learning we will be undertaking. We are going to be covering a range of genres including persuasion, balanced argument and biography.

After our amazing Exotic Animal Encounter we will write our own informative recount including some of the amazing facts we learn.

For our balanced argument, we will be choosing our own perspective on our focus question – are zoos ethical?

We will be utilising the skills we have built during our persuasion writing to create a balanced argument, portraying both viewpoints, before stating our beliefs on the subject.

Our final piece of writing will be a biography on key conservationists. Children will have the opportunity to research and learn about an inspirational naturalist including Jane Goodall, David Attenborough, Jacques Coustau, Peter Scott, Rachel Carson and Gerald Durrell.

## Science

In this topic, 'Circle of Life', children will learn about plants and animals.

We will learn about the features of plants and their reproductive systems.

We will look at life cycles of animals, understanding the different stages of development.

Children will learn about endangered animals and understand why animals are becoming extinct.

We will work scientifically to investigate these different areas of the 'Circle of Life'.



As our topic is science-based, we will be exploring plants and animals across the curriculum!

## Maths

Through studying minibeasts, plants and animals, we will be considering elements of Maths such as measurement, mass and conversions.

Through our investigations, we will use statistics and data collection.

In Year Six, we will be working on preparation for SATs assessments through developing our knowledge of Arithmetic and Reasoning.

Year 5 will continue to build on prior learning, working towards Greater Depth level, and continuing to cover key areas of Maths such as fractions, decimals, negative numbers, area and perimeter.

### **Personal Development**

We will:

- Complete a SCARF unit of work on Growing and Changing. This unit considers how you are feeling and taking notice of our feelings. We will discuss growing up and changes that occur and the concept of stereotypes.

### **R.E**

We will:

- Look at commitment in Sikhism.

### **P.E**

We will:

- Develop or hand eye coordination and racket skills whilst learning the skills of tennis.
- Build Cricket skills through completing games and activities to develop areas of Cricket including bowling, batting and tactical gameplay.
- Complete weekly Swimming lessons to achieve 25m certificate.

### **History**

We will:

- Learn about the lives of famous naturalists from modern history.

### **Geography**

We will:

- Locate the habitats of deadly minibeasts on a world map.
- Understand the environmental factors that have caused the extinction of animals.

### **Art & D.T**

We will:

- Make a minibeast hotel in the school grounds, carefully considering areas that would be suitable for minibeasts to live in.

### **Music**

We will:

- Look at Motown songs from the 1960s including Dancing In The Street by Martha And The Vandellas.
- Listen and appraise Motown songs.
- Play instruments alongside Motown songs.

### **Computing**

We will:

- Introduce 2Design and Make – children will know what the 2Design and Make tool is for.
- Adapt one of the vehicle models by moving the points to alter the shape of the vehicle while still maintaining its form.
- Explore how to edit the polygon 3D models to design a 3D model for purpose.
- Refine one of our designs ready for printing.
- Print our design as a 2D net and then create a 3D model.

### **Spanish**

We will:

- Learn in Spanish the essential elements that all plants and animals need to survive.
- Learn about some of they key habitats in our world.
- To learn in Spanish which plants grow in specific habitats.
- Learn about which animals live in specific habitats and look at some of their adaptations.

# Additional Information

## P.E Day

In Year 5/6, our P.E day will be on a Friday. Some students will attend Swimming lessons, whilst the students that remain will complete their P.E lessons in school.

## Key Dates

### **SATs Week** **9<sup>th</sup> May – 12<sup>th</sup> May**

As we have SATs this term, it will be the case that Year 6 do not complete all of the topic learning across the curriculum to ensure they are given enough time to prepare for their assessments.

## Home Learning

Each week, children in Year 5/6 will receive Home Learning for Maths and English each week. They will receive English Home Learning on a Tuesday and Maths Home Learning on a Friday.

## Other

There are a wide range of sporting events arranged for this term that your child may be invited onto. These will take place during the school day.

## Reading

Students are expected to complete 5 Reading Journal entries every week.

They will read their Oxford Owl scheme book, or a Reading for Pleasure book, and will answer questions on their reading that day.

Please ensure that your child is confident with their times tables – a key skill to support them with their Maths learning.