Evolution and Inheritance – the Game of Survival!



Why This? Why Now?

This topic builds on the previous learning of the children. They have researched habitats and looked at their suitability considering how they provide for their basic needs. The children have also studied how animals, including humans, have offspring which grow into adults. In Y6, we will develop this and study adaptation of plants and animals and understand how they survive in changing environments. In Year 3, the children have studied rocks and fossils and how they are formed – we will continue this work and make our own 'fossils'. In Year 2, the children look at explorers and this is developed further in Year 6 through researching famous evolutionists, including Charles Darwin's voyage on HMS Beagle, and their impact on the scientific world.

We also look at how human habitats may change due to natural disasters, human influence and develop the idea of an evacuee or refugee from Year 6 Autumn Term.

This area of research helps to embed the children's understanding of SMSC (Social, Moral, Spiritual and Cultural) values:

- encourage respect for other people;
- further tolerance and harmony between different cultural traditions by enabling students to acquire an appreciation of and respect for their own and other culture

Normanby Primary School STAR value:

• Respect and Behaviour

English -National Curriculum / Skills	OVERVIEW
Plan their writing by:	Non-chronological explanation text: Creature report – Guide to caring for a
 identifying the audience for and purpose of the writing, selecting the appropriate form and using other similar writing as models for their own 	Children design their own creature and then produce an information guide on to how to care for it.



MEDIUM TERM PLANNING | UNIT OBJECTIVES

Year Group: 6

Normanby Primary School

- noting and developing initial ideas, drawing on reading and research where necessary
- use a wide range of devices to build cohesion within and across paragraphs
- use further organisational and presentational devices to structure text and to guide the reader e.g. headings, bullet points

Draft and write by:

• selecting appropriate grammar and vocabulary, understanding how such choices can change and enhance meaning

Evaluate and edit by:

 perform their own compositions, using appropriate intonation, volume and movement so that meaning is clear

Comprehension

- discuss and evaluate how authors use language considering the impact on the reader
- prepare poems to read aloud and to perform showing understanding through intonation, tone and volume so that the meaning is clear to an audience

Diary/Descriptive writing – creature in captivity: empathetic writing based on their creature in captivity

Poetry – performance and writing:

Refugee poetry – Brian Bilston, Benjamin Zephaniah

Children write their own reverse' poem in the style of Bilston linked to Normanby's STAR values

Whole class reading – Darwin's Dragons by Lindsay Galvin

Geography – National Curriculum / Skills	OVERVIEW
Describe and understand key aspects of: physical geography, including:, volcanoes and earthquakes	What is the Earth made of?
	How are volcanoes made?



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Describe and understand key aspects of physical geography including looking at tectonic plates.	How does an earthquake occur? What happens when a volcano erupts? Case study: Fuego Volcano What happens when an earthquake occurs? Case study: Tohoku Earthquake	
History – National Curriculum / Skills	OVERVIEW	
To make informed responses to historical questions choosing and using a range of sources. Explore a range of primary and secondary sources, exploring reliability and bias.	University of Cambridge Darwin Correspondence Project: Types of evidence https://www.darwinproject.ac.uk/learning/7-11/detecting-darwin Children study the Dodo – drawings, paintings and scientific reports	
Science – National Curriculum / Skills	OVERVIEW	
Recognise that living things have changed over time and that fossils provide information about living things that inhabited the Earth millions of years ago	Variation and Inheritance – Mr Men, Simpson's family tree, animal adaptation	
Recognise that living things produce offspring of the same kind, but normally offspring vary and are not identical to their parents	Evolution and Adaptation – 'Battle of the beaks', leaf investigation. Practical investigations inspired by the work Charles Darwin – the Galapagos' Finches.	
Identify how animals and plants are adapted to suit their environment in	Pioneering scientists – study of famous evolutionists	
different ways and that adaptation may lead to evolution	Studying and 'making' fossils	
PSHE – National Curriculum / Skills	OVERVIEW	
What a stereotype is, and how stereotypes can be unfair, negative or destructive.	Children explore Brian Bilston's reverse poem 'Refugees' and then write their own based on Normanby Primary School's STAR values	

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Creatures in captivity What is a refugee? Who should help? How have influential scientists from the past helped to shape today? Fossil making Darwin's Dragons – Lindsay Galvin	Debate & Discussion Opportunities	Trips & Experiences	Possible Linked Texts
STAR values – Respect and Behaviour	What is a refugee? Who should help? How have influential scientists from the past	Fossil making	Darwin's Dragons – Lindsay Galvin

Supporting Your Child at Home

https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zvhhvcw/articles/z9qs4qt

https://www.theschoolrun.com/what-are-adaptation-and-evolution

https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/class-clips-video/ks2-charles-darwin-victorian-science/zddbnrd