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## Half-Termly Curriculum Snapshot

Badgers - Spring 2

Our Topic for this Half-Term: Can we live with a restless planet?

Key Learning Highlights

Here's a glimpse into the exciting learning journey your child will embark on this half-term, covering all aspects of the National Curriculum:

 English:

- What we're reading: When the Giant Stirred - Legend of a Volcanic Island by Celia Godkin.
- What we're writing: Narrative Writing
- Key skills: Expand noun phrases, use and punctuate direct speech and use commas after fronted adverbials.

 Mathematics:

- Main topic: Fractions
- Key skills: Understanding the whole, understanding improper fractions and converting mixed numbers to improper fractions.

 Science:

- Main topics: Rocks
- Key questions: How are fossils formed? How are rocks formed? How are rocks the same? How are rocks different?
- Engaging Activities: Active learning; observing and classifying rocks.
- Prior Learning Connection: Everyday Materials

 Geography: Can we live with a restless planet?

- Big Ideas: Mountains, Volcanoes and Earthquakes.

To describe and understand key aspects of physical geography in the context of what is under the Earth's surface.

To describe and understand key aspects of physical geography in the context of volcanoes.

To describe and understand key aspects of physical geography in the context of earthquakes.



To locate using 4-figure grid references.

- Engaging Activities: Disney Pixar Video Lava.
- Prior Learning Connection: Map skills; Locating continents.

 Art & Design:

Taught in Spring 1

 Design & Technology:

Focus: Needlework and Textiles

- Threading a needle;
- Simple running stitch;
- Joining textiles together.

 Music:

- Focus: All the learning in this unit is focused around one song: Lean On Me.
- Key Skills: Listen and Appraise; Performing an ensemble.

 Physical Education (PE):

Badgers' PE days are Tuesday with Multiflex.

- Focus: Tennis
- Key Skills: Developing racket control, movement, basic strokes, underarm serving and volleys.
- Forest School will be on Thursday this half term. Please can children come in outdoor clothing and bring an extra pair of shoes in their bag.

 Computing:

- Focus: Data Handling
- Key Skills: In this unit, learners will consider how and why data is collected over time. Pupils will consider the senses that humans use to experience the environment and how computers can use special input devices called sensors to monitor the environment. Pupils will collect data as well as access data captured over long periods of time. They will look at data points, data sets, and logging intervals. Pupils will spend time using a computer to review and analyse data. Towards the end of the unit, pupils will pose questions and then use data loggers to automatically collect the data needed to answer those questions.

 Religious Education (RE):

- Focus: Christianity.
- Key Questions: What can I learn from Christian art about Christian beliefs about Easter, Salvation and the Trinity?

 Relationships & Health Education (RHE) & PSHE: HeartSmart & No Outsiders

- Focus: This half-term, we will be continuing our work with HeartSmart, focusing on

Don't hold on to what is wrong' - understanding forgiveness.

- Key Learning: Saying sorry; The value of forgiving others; Managing negative stress; Recognising healthy boundaries; Being kind online.
- We will also integrate our No Outsiders programme, promoting inclusivity, celebrating diversity, and ensuring every child feels valued and belongs within our school family.
- Key No Outsiders text: My beautiful voice-Joseph Coelho and Allison Colpoys
- Key No Outsiders learning: To speak up. Respectful relationships: The importance of self-respect and how this links to their own happiness.

### ☀️ Supporting Learning at Home -

Your partnership is invaluable! Here are simple and engaging ways you can support your child's learning this half-term:

Continue to support regular reading at home. Please listen to your child read their reading and ask questions about the text and sign their reading diary. Support homework tasks, including logging onto TT Rockstars and Spelling Shed. You can also play Maths games on Mathsframe, Top Marks or NRICH to build fluency and confidence.

### 📖 English: Narrative Writing – *When the Giant Stirred*

Volcano Adventure Writing:

Encourage your child to write their own short narrative about a volcano or earthquake adventure. Challenge them to:

- Use expanded noun phrases (e.g. *the rumbling, fiery mountain*).
- Include fronted adverbials (e.g. *Without warning*, the ground began to shake).
- Use and punctuate direct speech correctly.

Word Detective:

While reading at home, look for powerful vocabulary linked to natural disasters (e.g. eruption, tremor, molten). Can your child explain what the words mean using clues from the sentence?

### ✚ Mathematics: Fractions

Fractions in Real Life:

Look for fractions around your home:

- Cut a sandwich, pizza or cake into equal parts. What fraction is each piece?
- If you have 8 slices and eat 3, what fraction is left?

Times Tables Practice:

Regular practice on TT Rockstars will help build fluency and confidence.

### 🔬 Science: Rocks

Rock Explorer:

On a walk, look for different types of rocks. Are they smooth or rough? Hard or crumbly? Compare and classify them.

Fossil Facts:

Watch a short clip on BBC Bitesize about how fossils are formed. Can your child explain the process step-by-step?

Rock Sorting:

If you have a small collection of stones at home, sort them by appearance (colour, texture, size). Discuss how they are similar and different.

 Geography: Can We Live with a Restless Planet?

Volcano & Earthquake Research:

Use BBC Bitesize or Google Earth to explore famous volcanoes such as Mount Vesuvius or Mauna Loa.

Can your child locate them on a map?

4-Figure Grid Reference Practice:

Use an atlas or an online map with grid lines. Practise giving simple 4-figure grid references for different locations.

Natural Disaster Discussion:

Talk about how people prepare for earthquakes and volcanic eruptions. What makes living near a volcano risky? What might be the benefits?

You may also enjoy watching the Pixar short film *Lava* by Pixar Animation Studios and discussing how islands are formed.

 Design & Technology: Textiles

Threading Practice:

If safe and supervised, allow your child to practise threading a needle and sewing a simple running stitch on scrap fabric.

Home Project:

Design and decorate a small fabric square using simple stitches.

 Music: Lean On Me

Listen to *Lean On Me* by Bill Withers together.

Discuss:

- What is the message of the song?
- Why is it important to support others?
- Can you sing along as a family?

## Computing: Data Handling

Data at Home:

Create a simple data collection project:

- Record daily temperatures for a week.
- Count how many cars pass your house in 10 minutes.

Discuss:

- What is the data showing?
- What patterns can you see?
- Why might computers use sensors to collect information over time?

## RE: Christianity

Look at examples of Christian art online showing Easter scenes.

Discuss:

- What symbols can you see?
- What do they represent?
- What do Christians believe about Easter, salvation and the Trinity?

## RHE & PSHE: HeartSmart & No Outsiders

Forgiveness Talk:

Discuss why saying sorry is important and how forgiveness helps us feel better.

Speak Up:

After reading *My Beautiful Voice* by Joseph Coelho, talk about:

- When is it important to speak up?
- How can we show self-respect and kindness online and offline?

## Be a Kind Citizen:

Choose one small act of kindness as a family this week - helping a neighbour, picking up litter, or writing a thank-you note.

Please do not hesitate to contact your child's class teacher if you have any questions.

Warmly,

Mrs Webb

Badgers Teacher

Wincham Community Primary School