

Our World, Our Future



Connect: “Relevant stuff they should already have learnt about”

The children have been inspired by the current climate crisis, which has featured in the local and global news.

We look at issues that are long standing and up-to-the-minute, investigating questions raised by them, as well as debates to develop critical thinking.

By learning about the science and geography that affects our world, this topic aims to help children understand what needs to be done, to recognise what matters to them and to take action to help protect people, places, animals and themselves in their world which is their future.

We will link this to our work in the school with growing food and sustainability, motivating them to take positive, direct action and learning life skills. This is making the topic accessible to all in a practical way and the children can see links between what is happening in the wider world and how each of them can make a difference. They will all understand that the small actions can have an impact globally.

Preview: “Relevant stuff they will learn about in future”

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Key vocabulary:

Biodiversity, climate change, habitats, eco system, sustainability, biomes, deforestation, urbanisation, global citizenship, pollution, global warming, rural, species.

Significant people:

David Attenborough, Greta Thunberg

Subject specific skills

- Map reading skills
- Sketch maps – using a key
- Environmental quality survey in the school grounds.

Essential takeaways

- Understand that biodiversity means the mixture of all life on Earth and its importance for sustaining life.
- Climate change is having an impact on biodiversity and how this is causing flooding in Bangladesh and drought in Uganda.
- Learn and adopt a small action (such as turning off a light) that can have a positive impact on reducing climate change.
- Learn how the UK is also affected by climate change.

Cross curricular opportunities

English texts– *Flotsam* – biodiversity and habitats in the UK.
Kapok Tree – biodiversity in rainforest, impact of deforestation and habitats outside of the UK.

Science – *Living things and their habitats*. Exploration/surveys of habitats in the school. Comparative test – greenhouse gases.

DT – *Pop-Up books* – linked to habitats.
Design and make a floating wind turbine.

Builds on:

Y2 – Climate zones and perfect planet.
Y3 – Types of settlement and land use. [Brilliant Bristol](#) and [Awesome Ancestors](#)

Prepares for:

Y5 – [Rainforests](#) - Weather and climate, including biomes, vegetation belts.
Human geography types of settlement.