

Riverside Primary School

Curriculum Newsletter for Families: Year 5/6 - 2025

Upper Key Stage Two - Year 5/6

This half term our theme is...

Into the Amazon



We would like to take this opportunity to tell you all about the exciting half-term ahead. This newsletter is where you can find out all about what your child will be learning over the coming weeks, along with some ideas and suggestions for some activities you could try to support their learning at home.

What are we learning during this theme?

This half term all our work will be based around the theme "Into the Amazon." Our Geography lessons will focus on Physical and Human geography of South America. We will also be learning about the importance of rivers and their physical geography. In ICT we will be looking at Digital Foundations 6 which aims to provide children with the foundational knowledge and skills necessary to support their computing learning throughout the year. As part of our Art lessons we will be creating a collage based on the Amazon Rainforest and the artist Barry Martin. PE - we will be improving our netball and yoga skills. In English, we will be writing Warning Tales and using our new found knowledge of the Rainforest to write an Explanation Text.

As part of our No Outsiders programme Year 5/6 will be looking at **Rose Blanche** by Ian McEwan and Roberti Innocenti, the learning intention is to justify my actions. This looks at knowing sometimes we have to make difficult decisions and understanding I can justify my actions.

Trips, Visitors and Experiences

Some Year 6 have the opportunity to take part in the Bikeability cycle training programme. It's about gaining practical skills and understanding how to cycle safely on today's roads. While the children in Year 5 will take part in the Road Safety Walks which involves walking safely by staying on pavements, using crossings where possible, and looking and listening for traffic.

We will have our much anticipated Christmas concert towards the end of the half term.

You can also find more information about our learning on our Medium Term plan and via our Knowledge Organisers, which are available on our school website:
<https://www.riversideprimary.co.uk/curriculum/>

How can you support your child at home?

Every week, your child will receive their usual home learning tasks of reading 5 times a week for at least 20 minutes (this must be noted in reading diaries with a parent's signature), spelling practice and either writing or maths homework.

In addition to this, please find some suggestions below on how to support your child's learning.

<u>Days out and things to do:</u>	<u>Books to read:</u>	<u>Things to watch:</u>
Beechcroft Art Gallery Beecroft Art Gallery Southend Museums National Gallery - especially Henri Rousseau National Gallery Tate Britain - Barry Martin Barry Martin born 1943 Tate Visit the river Crouch or even the River Thames Visit the Thames Barrier London tourist attractions - Sightseeing - visitlondon.com	The Great Kapok Tree: A Tale of the Amazon Rain Forest by Lynne Cherry The Barefoot Book of Animal Tales by Naomi Adler and Amanda Hall How Night Came from the Sea: A Story from Brazil by Mary-Joan Gerson and Carla Golembe Dancing Turtle by Pleasant DeSpain and David Boston Secrets of the Rainforest by Carron Brown Don't Let Them Disappear by Chelsea Clinton Journey to the River Sea by Eva Ibbotson Other children's books by Eva Ibbotson A life on Our Planet by David Attenborough Neal Layton A Climate in Chaos Protect the planet by Jess French	Dora and the Lost City of Gold Coco Rio The Emperor's New Groove The Road to Eldorado Nacho Libre AINBO: Spirit of the Amazon