

Year 3 Curriculum Newsletter

Term 5 Update

Dear Mums, Dads & Carers

Welcome to the summer terms! Your child will be covering the following areas of the curriculum this term:

Value of the Term:	Courage & Determination		
Experience Title	Green Fingers		
Geography	Why are rainforests important to us?		
Science	Science: Plants		
Art or DT (Kapow)	Art: Growing artists		
English Writing	Character description based on The Tin Forest	Alternative ending from The Tin Forest	
English Reading	The Enormous Crocodile by Roald Dahl Esio Trot by Roald Dahl The Magic Finger by Roald Dahl		
Maths	Number: Fractions	Measurement: Money	Measurement: Time
PSHE	Wellbeing		
RE	Is scripture central to religion?		
MFL	French playground games - numbers and age		
Music	Jazz		
PE	Outdoor: Tennis Indoor: Badminton		
Computing	Email	Graphing	

Homework focus:

- **Reading** – at least 3 x per week recorded in your child's Reading Record book. If your child records 5 x reading per week, they will receive a super ticket!
- **Spellings** – please see activities on Spelling Shed.
- **Times Tables** – log on to TTRockstars to learn your latest times table challenge!

Each week your class teacher will share on Class Dojo what homework is set for English and Maths. Remember it is set **every Friday** and **due** in on the **following Wednesday**!

Do not forget that your child should be coming home with two reading books: a reading book for pleasure and a reading book for learning. Reading Records are checked by staff on a regular basis to ensure that children understand the importance we place upon reading at Joydens Wood Junior School. Reading records should be handed in **every day**. Your child should be accessing Times Tables Rockstars to support their number knowledge. Being able to recall multiplication facts is an important skill. Children should be regularly practising their times tables on TTRockstars as this is a fun way of practice them in short bursts! Log ins to this website can be found in your child's Reading Record book. Spellings are tested every Friday. Spelling books will be sent home so you can check how your child has done. Your child will get weekly spellings, please ensure your child is learning these at home.

Tips for Maths:

Visit these website for tips and hints on how to help your child with their upcoming Maths units.

- Fractions: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zhdwxnb/year/zmyxxyc>
- Money: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/z8yv4wx/year/zmyxxyc>
- Time: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zkfycdm>

Tips for Reading:

Before reading...

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Talk about the book• Look at the title• Talk about the pictures	Ask... <ul style="list-style-type: none">• What might the book be about?• Why do you think that? – what are the clues?• What do you hope to find out?• What might happen next in the story?• Who is the book written for?
---	--

While reading...

Ask...

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• What do you think is happening here?• Why do you think that?• What happened in the story?• What might this mean?• Through whose eyes is the story told? How do you know this?	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Which part of the story best describes the setting?• What words and/or phrases do this?• What part of the story do you like best?• Where does the story take place?
---	--

After reading...

Ask...

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• When did the story take place?• What did s/he/it look like?• Who was s/he/it?• Where did s/he/it live?	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Who are the characters in the book?• Where in the book would you find....?• Summarise the story so far.
---	---

Further Learning

- Science – Plants: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zy66fg8/articles/z2d4g7h>

Our PE days for Term 5 are:

- Aberdeen & Belfast: Wednesday & Thursday
- Cambridge: Thursday & Friday

They must have a named coat in too. Your child will also need the following stationary in school:

- Handwriting Pen (the Berol handwriting pens are what we use in school)
- Pencil
- Purple Biro Pen
- Glue Stick (please no scented or coloured ones and they are child safe)
- Sharpener (preferable with a bottom cup to it)
- Rubber
- A highlighter
- Whiteboard pen

Thank you for your support with your child's learning!

What should I already know?

- Which things are living and which are not.
- A variety of common wild and garden plants, including deciduous and evergreen trees and how to identify them.
- The structure of common flowering plants, including trees (including leaves, flowers, fruits, roots, bulbs, seeds, stem, trunks and branches)
- Seeds and bulbs grow into mature plants
- Plants need water, light and a suitable temperature to grow and stay healthy.
- Different vegetation belts and climate zones around the world
- Plants and animals depend on each other to survive.

Vocabulary

absorb	soak up or take in
anther	the part of a stamen that produces and releases the pollen
branches	parts that grow out from the tree trunk and have leaves, flowers, or fruit growing on them
bulb	a root shaped like an onion that grows into a flower or plant
carbon dioxide	a gas produced by animals and people breathing out
climate zone	sections of the Earth that are divided according to the climate. There are three main climate zones; polar, temperate and tropical.
common	something that is found in large numbers or it happens often
deciduous	a tree that loses its leaves in the autumn every year
dispersed	scattered, separated, or spread through a large area
dissect	to carefully cut something up in order to examine it scientifically
evergreen	a tree or bush which has green leaves all the year round
fertilisation	in plants, where pollen meets the ovule to form a seed
fertiliser	a substance that is added to soil in order to make plants grow more successfully
flower	the part of a plant which is often brightly coloured and grows at the end of a stem
flowering	trees or plants which produce flowers
fruit	something which grows on a tree or bush and which contains seeds or a stone covered by a substance that you can eat
function	a useful thing that something does
garden	a piece of land next to a house, with flowers, vegetables, other plants, and often grass
germination	if a seed germinates or if it is germinated, it starts to grow
healthy	well and not suffering from any illness
leaf / leaves	the parts of a tree or plant that are flat, thin, and usually green
life cycle	the series of changes that an animal or plant passes through from the beginning of its life until its death
mature	When something matures, it is fully developed
nutrients	substances that help plants and animals to grow
ovule	a small egg
petal	thin coloured or white parts which form part of the flower
plant	a living thing that grows in the earth and has a stem, leaves, and roots
pollen	a fine powder produced by flowers. It fertilises other flowers of the same species so that they produce seeds
pollination	To pollinate a plant or tree means to fertilise it with pollen. This is often done by insects
roots	the parts of a plant that grow under the ground
seed	the small, hard part from which a new plant grows
stem	the thin, upright part of a plant on which the flowers and leaves grow
stigma	the top of the centre part of a flower which takes in pollen
structure	the way in which something is built or made
temperature	a measure of how hot or cold something is
transported	taking something from one place to another
tree	a tall plant that has a hard trunk, branches, and leaves
trunk	the large main stem from which the branches grow
vegetation	plants, trees and flowers
wild	animals or plants that live or grow in natural surroundings and are not looked after by people

The functions of the different parts of flowering plants.

flower

seed

leaf

stem

roots

- The petals on a flower are usually bright - this is to attract bees and other insects so that they can collect pollen to make seeds.
- The seeds are then able to grow to make new plants. This is called germination.
- Leaves use carbon dioxide and sunlight to make food for the plant.
- The stem carries water and other nutrients from the roots to the rest of the plant. Leaves use this water to make food.
- The stem also helps to keep the plant upright so that the sunlight can reach it easier.
- The roots help to 'anchor' the plant in the soil. They also absorb water and nutrients from the soil for the stem to carry to the rest of the plant.

What do different plants need to grow?

- air
- water
- sunlight
- nutrients from the soil
- room to grow
- suitable temperature



The amount of each of these may vary depending on the type of plant. For example, cacti need less water than other plants.

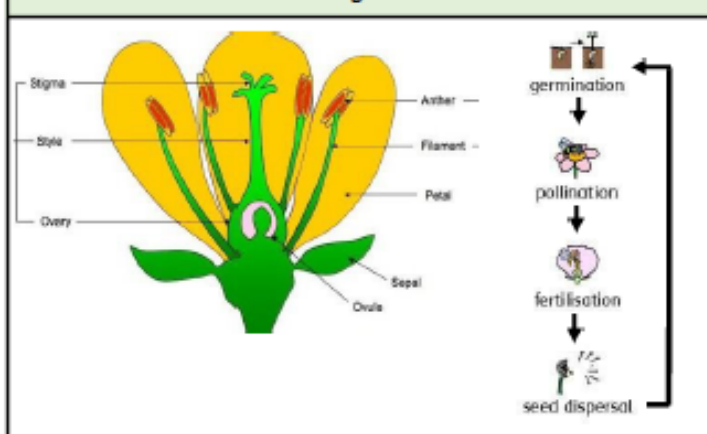
How is water transported within plants?

- Water is absorbed from the soil by the roots.
- It is then transported from the roots to the stem and then to the rest of the plant.

How do flowers help in the life cycle of flowering plants?

- The flower's job is to create seeds so that new plants can grow.
- Pollination occurs when pollen from the anther is transferred to the stigma by bees and other insects.
- The pollen then travels down and meets the ovule. When this happens, seeds are formed - this is called fertilisation.
- Seeds are then dispersed so that germination can begin again.

Diagrams



Investigate!

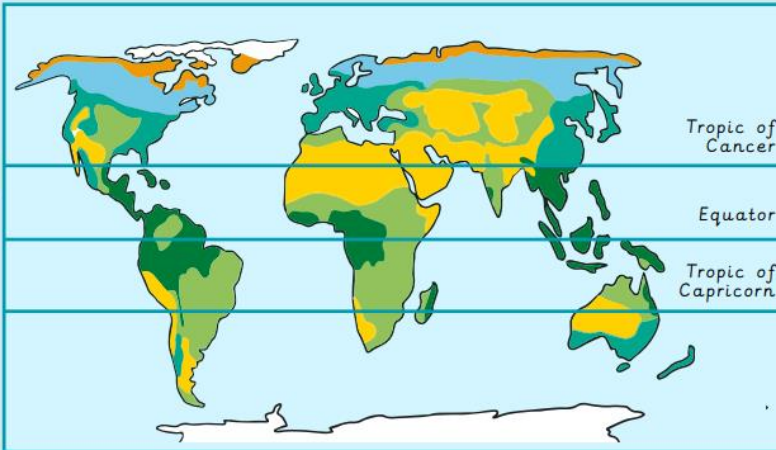
- Compare the effect of different factors in plant growth (e.g. the amount of water, the amount of light and the amount of fertiliser). Discuss what would make this a fair test.
- Place white carnations in dyed water to observe how plants transport water.
- Discover how seeds are formed by observing plant life cycles.
- Dissect fruits to observe their structure and use this to explain how seeds are dispersed.
- Dissect a flower and identify each of the different parts that help with fertilisation.

Map of the world's biomes

biome

An area of the world with a similar climate and landscape, where similar plants and animals live.

- Tundra
- Temperate deciduous forest
- Tropical rainforest
- Savannah
- Desert
- Boreal forest



Tropic of Cancer

Equator

Tropic of Capricorn

A line of latitude north of the Equator which marks the northernmost edge of the Earth's hottest regions.

An invisible horizontal line that splits the world into two hemispheres.

A line of latitude south of the Equator which marks the southernmost edge of the Earth's hottest regions.

Tropical rainforest



How have plants adapted in the Amazon rainforest?



Thin, smooth bark ensures rain can run off trees easily.



Buttress roots keep tall trees stable in the wet soil and strong winds.



Drip tips mean rain can run off leaves without damaging them.



Lianas (vines) wind their way up other plants to reach sunlight.

Map of the Amazon rainforest



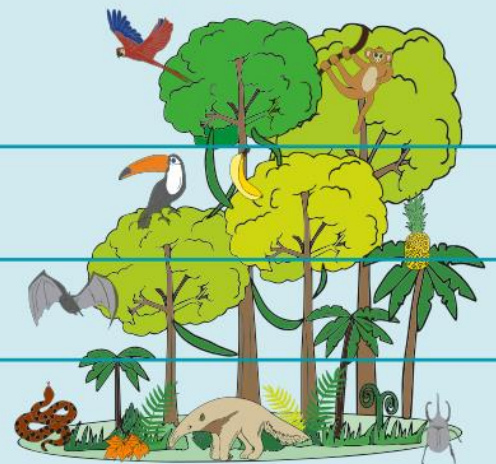
Layers of the rainforest

emergent layer

canopy layer

understorey layer

forest floor



global warming



When our Earth's temperature rises because of greenhouse gases.

mining



The process of digging underground for precious metals and stones.

logging



The cutting down of trees for their wood.

deforestation



The cutting down of trees in a large area.

emergent layer

The top layer of the rainforest with the tallest trees that get lots of sunlight, rain and wind.

canopy layer

The layer of overlapping branches and leaves below the top of the rainforest that gets sunlight, rain and wind.

understorey layer

The warm and damp layer above the forest floor that gets little light.

forest floor

The ground layer of the rainforest where it is dark, wet and hot.