



Learning Exploration: Mexico: The Yucatan Experience

The overall aim behind this exploration is to foster a sense of wonder and curiosity about the world we live in at a level wider than our local community and country. Comparing the area that we live in – The South West Peninsula – to a contrasting area in the world – The Yucatan, Mexico – will enable children to deepen their understanding of and empathy towards people who share our global community. This will help children on their journey to becoming global citizens who respect the protected characteristics of all members of our global population; it will also prepare them for their future (wherever they may end up in the world). Understanding the physical geography of a contrasting area of the world as well as developing an understanding of the cultural differences which may exist will support children to build compassion for others.

Hook into learning:

Year 6 will be challenged to complete the 'Pangea Puzzle' in preparation for their future learning about tectonic plates.

Journey through the exploration

Due to the focus on SATs revision this term, Year 6 will take part in a *light-touch* geographical exploration. Pupils will investigate the key question: **What are the main human geographical features of the Yucatán Peninsula?** They will also explore the region's physical geography by considering: **What are the similarities and differences between the Yucatán Peninsula and our South West Peninsula?**

As part of this learning, pupils will study the topography of both areas and develop an understanding of how movement along fault lines in the Earth's crust leads to the formation of mountains. They will identify the key features of mountain ranges and explore why these landscapes attract tourists from around the world. At the heart of this unit, global learning will inspire a sense of wonder and curiosity about our world.

Parent/Carer Curriculum Information

Year 6

Linked subjects

Through this exploration, learning will be linked where appropriate, including in the following subjects:

- Geography
- Art – Textiles
- Global Learning
- Music

The following subjects will also be taught discretely during this half term:

- Science
- R.E.
- PSHE
- Computing
- P.E.

Maths

Children will explore:

- Revision of previous maths learning in preparation for SATs
- Costing and budgeting a trip to Mexico



Writing

Year 6 will focus on applying and consolidating key grammar skills through a targeted revision programme. Short writing opportunities will be closely linked to the types of grammar questions pupils may encounter in the SATs paper.

Writing across the curriculum:

During the first part of the half term, learning will focus on SATs preparation, with an emphasis on reading and grammar. Grammar revision will be embedded through short descriptive writing tasks, including describing locations in Mexico with a clear grammatical focus.



Opportunities to build cultural capital

Cultural capital is the essential knowledge that pupils need to be educated citizens, introducing them to the best that has been thought and said, and helping to engender an appreciation of human creativity and achievement.

At NCSPA, we aim to build cultural capital through experiences such as trips, visitors, music and providing local links.

For Year 6, this term:

- Residential Trip to London
- Using Google Earth to “fly” across the Yucatán and then back home to the South West Peninsula.

Opportunities to address Equality, Diversity and Inclusion

Through our global learning, prejudice and discrimination which may be faced by people living in Mexico will be investigated, challenging cultural stereotypes through this learning.

Opportunities for developing empathy towards our diverse global community will be explored.



Opportunities for shared outcomes

Children will have the opportunity to produce or take part in one or more of the following:

- A collaborative ‘Zapotec Weave’.
- A collaborative brochure.
- A presentation of their maths project – a budgeted trip to the Yucatán.



Further curriculum information

If you would like any further information regarding the curriculum, please:

- Speak to Mrs Gregory, Miss Ashton or Miss Pennington
- Contact Mrs Gregory - KS2 Leader - through the school office.
- See your child's class information on Seesaw.
- Visit the Curriculum pages on our website.
- **If you would more details of our Jigsaw PSHE sessions and access to the resources that teachers will be using to deliver them, please let the office know and they can provide you with a link for your child's year group..**

