



Learning Exploration: Go With the Flow

As a coastal community, we are surrounded by beautiful rivers, estuaries and oceans that are significant features in our local area and the South West; therefore, learning about the human and physical features of two contrasting rivers will give children an understanding of how rivers can impact on communities. This exploration follows on from our spring learning exploration where children found out that settlements are often located close to rivers for various reasons such as transport links. Additionally, this exploration will give children a clear understanding of the geography behind the Yellow River Valley in China which will enable them to learn about the history of this area when studying The Shang Dynasty during our Summer 2 exploration.

Hook into learning:

Year 5 will experience our real local river. We will go for a walk to view and explore our local river: The River Taw. Children will be challenged to find particular features within our local river to give them a real life context to apply their learning throughout the exploration back in the classroom.

Journey through the exploration

This exploration will begin by exploring the key question **what is a river?** This will then progress to look at the **physical features of a river**, specifically **how meanders and waterfalls are formed**. **We will focus on locating key human and physical features of the Watersmeet and Yellow River Valleys and relate these features to the locality (population size; tourist landmarks/rivers/transport links to mountainous areas)**. We will learn that **the water cycle is a closed cycle**, before ending our topic by constructing structures which could be used as a bird hide near a river environment, using our knowledge from D&T.



Parent/Carer Curriculum Information

Year 5

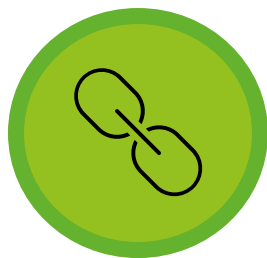
Linked subjects

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

- Design and Technology
- Geography
- English

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

- Music
- RE
- PSHE
- Computing
- Maths



Maths

Children will explore:

- Perimeter
- Statistics
- Shape
- Position and direction



Writing

Children will explore the following genres of writing:

Poetry:

- *The Sea* by James Reeves
- Purpose: to entertain and create powerful images
- Pupils will write their own extended metaphor poem

Fiction – Narrative:

- *Varjak Paw* by S.F. Said and Dave McKean
- Purpose: to entertain and create suspense
- Pupils will write an additional adventure based on the model text

Opportunities for writing across the curriculum:

- Writing poetry linked to the features of rivers



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 5, options this term may include:

- Walking trip to the River Taw.
- Trip to Watersmeet (National Trust).

Opportunities for shared outcomes

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

- Year group poetry anthology (linked to rivers and the features).
- In teams, children will create bridges which would be suitable to cross a river.



Opportunities to address Equality, Diversity and Inclusion

Throughout this exploration, the geography focus will allow us to explore the human geography surrounding rivers including looking at how a range of different people from different backgrounds may experience or use rivers in their lives. This will allow us to explore people from various backgrounds and cultures, enabling the children to continue to develop a deeper understanding of the need for tolerance and respect for others.



Further curriculum information

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

- Speak to Mrs Gregory, Mrs Williams or Miss Pennington
- See your child's class information on Seesaw.
- Contact Mrs Louisa Buttel (Curriculum Leader), through the school office.
- Visit the Curriculum pages on our website.

