



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 plan a trip to Mexico. They will be given a budget in a group and will need to plan a trip which allows a tourist to explore Mexico as fully as possible. As a group, they will be challenged to create a 'mood board' to showcase their trip which they will share with the year group, focusing on how they present this to their audience.

Journey through the exploration

Year 6 will begin this exploration by virtually travelling to Mexico: The Yucatan Peninsula. They will begin their journey by investigating the key question **what are the key human geographical features of this area?** On their journey, they will discover famous tourist landmarks and decide upon why this area is so popular with tourists, comparing this to our local area. Along their way, they will also discover the physical features of this environment by asking the key question **what are the similarities and differences between The Yucatan Peninsula and our South West Peninsula?** This will entail discovering the secrets of the largest rainforest in Mexico, exploring the famous coastline, as well as journeying into central Mexico to investigate major volcanoes such as Popocatepetl – the largest volcano in Mexico – and Ajusco. Our art lessons will focus upon **textiles** in which the children will create a small place mat using the **Zapotec weaving** tradition.

At the heart of this exploration, global learning will help to develop a sense of wonder and curiosity about the world. Global learning will be focused upon by developing empathy towards others locally and globally – particularly understanding the main impacts of prejudice and discrimination faced by people living in Mexico.



Parent/Carer Curriculum Information

Year 6

Linked subjects

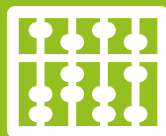
Through this exploration, learning will be linked where appropriate, including in the following subjects:

- Geography:
 - Similarities and differences between the South West peninsula and the Yucatan Peninsula
- History:
 - A brief look at the social, cultural, religious and ethnic diversity in Mexico in different time periods
- Art:
 - Textiles - Zapotec weavings
- Global Learning:
 - Empathy towards others
 - Impacts of prejudice and discrimination
 - Basics of government
 - Listening to others' viewpoints
 - Wonder and curiosity about the world
- Music:
 - Samba instruments
 - Dynamic and tempo marks
 - Singing in parts and in tune, with expression and control

Maths

The main focus of Year 6 Maths this half term will be SATs revision.

Children will also use their Maths skills to cost and budget for a trip to the Yucatan, Mexico



Writing

- The first part of this half term will focus upon revision for SATs, including a key focus on reading and grammar.
- Our grammar revision will focus on writing descriptive sentences about locations in Mexico with a specific grammatical focus.
- Non-fiction persuasive texts: creating quality persuasive brochures and leaflets about Mexico, inspired by real-life travel brochures.

Opportunities for writing across the curriculum:

- A non-chronological report focused on Mexico's Geographical features.



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, options this term may include:

- A trip to GoldCoast Oceanfest music, surf and culture festival
- A walk in our local area to inspire our writing.

Opportunities for shared outcomes

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

- Mood board to showcase their trip to Mexico
- A collaborative Zapotec-inspired weave
- A collaborative brochure.



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.



Further curriculum information

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

- Speak to Mrs Gregory or Mrs Hemmings.
- 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.

