

Learning Exploration: Let's Get Ready to Rumble

Learning about volcanoes and earthquakes is a key part of developing children's understanding of the dynamic Earth. Pupils are naturally curious about the world around them, and studying these powerful natural events captures their imagination while providing valuable geographical knowledge. This exploration helps children understand how the Earth's surface is constantly changing due to tectonic activity. By learning about how volcanoes and earthquakes are formed, and where they are likely to occur, pupils begin to make sense of patterns in the natural world and develop important map-reading skills. It also encourages empathy and global awareness. Children explore how these natural disasters affect people's lives, helping them to appreciate the challenges faced by communities around the world and to think about how people adapt to their environments.

Hook into learning:

Children will create their own houses and decide where the best location to place them on the volcano is before the volcano erupts!

Journey through the exploration

Throughout this exploration, children will develop their understanding of volcanoes and earthquakes, delving into how volcanoes are formed.

To begin with children will **explore how the formation and movement of tectonic plates causes earthquakes**. In addition, children will **investigate the formation of volcanoes and how they erupt**. This understanding will be furthered by learning **about the different layers of a volcano**. Once children have established a secure understanding of how volcanoes are formed, **we will consider the impact of volcanoes on people**. Children will **evaluate how volcanoes affect the lives of people who choose to live near them**. Finally, children will finish the exploration by comparing volcanoes in **both Hawaii and Iceland and the impact the eruption had on the landscape and people**.



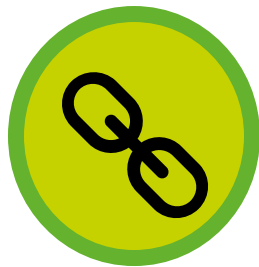
Linked subjects

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

- Geography

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

- Science
- Computing
- Music
- PE
- RE
- PSHE
- Design and technology



Maths

Children will explore:

Statistics

Shape

Position & Direction



Writing

Children will explore the following genres of writing:

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

Non-fiction – Scientific Report

- Planetarium -
- Purpose: to inform
- Pupils will write a formal, scientific report about a planet



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 opportunities such as:

- Creating short films linked to our exploration.
- Learning about significant scientists.



Opportunities for shared outcomes

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

- Creating a double page about scientists significant in the study of the Earth and space.
- Collaborating in D&T to design and make a structure.



Opportunities to address Equality, Diversity and Inclusion

Children will have the opportunity to address EDI through the following:

- Learning about how people around the world, in different cultures and communities, manage living near to active volcanoes.
- Focusing on the contributions of scientists from different backgrounds and times in history.



Further curriculum information

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

- Speak to Mrs Hemmings, Mrs Williams or Mrs Edgell.
- Contact Mrs Gregory - KS2 Leader - through the school office.
- See your child's class information on Seesaw.
- Visit the Curriculum pages on our website.

