

Little Thurrock Primary Curriculum Overview

Year 3		
Subject	Learning Challenge Question	Learning Focus
Geography (WSF)	Where in the world am I?	Through this Whole School Focus (WSF) unit, the children will find out about their class country by using an atlas to locate the country within the world and its distance from England; investigate the physical features of the country and its weather; learn about the people who live there and what their lives may be like compared to their own.
Science	How does your garden grow?	This unit focuses on plant life. The children will identify and describe the functions of the different plant parts: roots, stem/trunk, leaves and flowers. They will investigate what a plant needs to live and grow and how these may vary from plant to plant. They will investigate the way in which water is transported within a plant and how plants reproduce.
History (WSF)	What put Essex on the map?	This unit provides an opportunity for the children to discover more about the history of Essex and what or who from the past had an impact upon the local area.
Science	Did dinosaurs really exist?	The children will explore how fossils are formed when things that have once lived are trapped within rock and how these fossils can help us in understanding about dinosaurs. They will compare and group rocks based on their appearance and properties and recognise that soil is made from rocks and organic matter.
WSF	What makes a time special?	Through this whole school focus unit the children will explore significant events that happen around this time of year.

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History	How can stone turn into iron?	Through the study of Changes in Britain from the Stone Age to the Iron Age, the children will determine what life was like for Neolithic hunter gatherers and farmers and identify the key changes that occurred to transform the Stone Age to the Bronze age and then the Iron age. They will make clear comparisons between each age and consider how these changes impacted on the next generations and what legacies are still in place today? They will use research skills and sources of evidence to develop their understanding of these Ages.
Geography	Where would you find a Yeti?	Mountains – a look into well-known mountains in the UK, Europe and worldwide. Children will consider how mountains were formed, similarities and differences between mountain regions and find out about the people who live there and how the mountains affect their lifestyles.
Science	Do opposites always attract?	This unit provides opportunities to explore forces and magnets. The children will find out how magnets can attract and repel each other and attract some materials and not others. That magnets do not need to have contact and can act at a distance. They will use their knowledge of magnetic poles to make predictions about attracting or repelling. They will also investigate and consider, through other subjects, what else is attracts or repels other than magnets e.g. Bees to flowers, peanut butter and jam, friendships and personalities.

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Science	Why don't sharks eat vegetables?	The children will identify why animals cannot make their own food and get nutrition from what they eat. They will look at reasons why different animals eat different things (herbivores, carnivores and omnivores).
History	How old is your mummy?	The children will find out about where and when the first civilisations appeared, with a particular focus on Ancient Egypt. They will study the lifestyles and beliefs of the Ancient Egyptians and how we know so much about them today. The children will consider the impact of the Ancient Egyptian civilisation on society today and compare how people in Britain were living at this time in history.
Geography	If I scratch your back, will you scratch mine?	Starting with the UK, the children will find out about what we natural resources we produce e.g. energy, food, minerals and water – and areas in the UK famous for particular produce resources (Cornwall – pasties, tin or Buxton for water). The children will look at why these resources are found in these location and who we distribute to. They will explore which countries we have to rely on for their resources and produce.

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Science	Can I lose my shadow?	Children will develop an understanding that light is needed in order to see and that darkness is the absence of light. They will explore ways in which we can still see without the sun being visible (e.g. the sun reflecting off the moon; we can have light from other sources other than the sun; light can be reflected off other surfaces). They will consider the dangers of the sun as well as the benefits. The children will investigate how shadows are formed and how shadows' forms and sizes can alter.
WSF	What makes an awesome author?	In this topic the children will explore a range of quality texts from a named author. They will experience the stories and style of the chosen author and increase their passion for reading for pleasure whilst doing so.