

Year 2, Spring Term Dinosaurs

Narrative

We begin our new topic with an exciting activity in the Wild Place! The children will explore and examine 'dinosaur bones'. The children then become palaeontologists, learning about and becoming experts in dinosaurs, pterosaurs and marine reptiles.

We start by exploring how we know dinosaurs existed, looking at fossils and finding out about Mary Anning and the importance of her discoveries. We will then think about when the dinosaurs lived, their characteristics, habitats and begin thinking about food chains by exploring what different dinosaurs ate. The topic ends by investigating theories as to why the dinosaurs became extinct, carrying out scientific investigations into volcanoes and meteorites.

Our research continues with a visit to the Natural History Museum. This then becomes a springboard for the children to produce a Year 2 Dinosaur Museum as the culmination of the topic.

Music

- Learn a variety of dinosaur songs: I've got a dinosaur in my back yard!; The Dinosaurs Song; The Dino Dance Song; Move Like A Dinosaur! Dino Stomp Dance
- Create their own verses for songs based on different dinosaurs
- Listen to and review a variety of dinosaur film music: *Jurassic Park Music* and *Walking with Dinosaurs*
- Move to the beat of the music in the style of different dinosaurs
- Create their own moves responding to the dynamics and beat

English

- Create a fact file about a chosen dinosaur
- Write a list of questions to ask about dinosaurs
- Write a set of instructions for how to do a dino dig
- Use a range of sources to find and write facts about dinosaurs
- Retell known stories and write their own stories based on a familiar story
- Use persuasive language to write a poster for the dinosaur museum
- Write poems and puzzles about dinosaurs
- Read a variety of stories, information books and poems on dinosaurs

History

- Order a timeline showing when dinosaurs were alive: Jurassic, Triassic, cretaceous periods, placing well-known dinosaurs in the correct periods
- Learn about Mary Anning, a famous palaeontologist and the significance of her discoveries
- Make comparisons looking at similarities and differences between modern day and the time Mary Anning discovered the Ichthyosaur
- Explore theories of dinosaur extinction
- Look at fossil artefacts
- Visit the Natural History Museum to see sources
- Use vocabulary of the past to describe the dinosaurs

Geography

- To know key physical features e.g. beach, cliff, forest, valley, vegetation and include these when making and describing dinoramas
- Explore continents and oceans of the world today and use maps to compare with Pangaea

Science

- Learn about habitats
- Learn about food chains
- Investigations into materials, volcanoes and meteorites
- Life cycles of animals
- Exploring and making fossils
- Suitability of every day materials for dinosaur cages

Computing

- Coding a dinosaur animation using iPads
- Using iPads to research dinosaurs for the museum

Art and DT

- 'Dinoramas': create a dinosaur landscape in a box
- Watercolours and poster paint to create dinosaurs and work on textures
- Clay ammonites and giant clay fossils
- Clay hatching dinosaurs for the Dinorama
- Dinosaur eye close ups using oil pastels
- Design, make and evaluate a felt toy dinosaur using sewing skills

