# CURRICULUM SUMMARY FOR YEAR 5 AND 6

## **Topic:** Africa

This term Year 5/6 are exploring Africa. The children will be refining our research and presentation skills to produce a variety of products in our integrated learning sessions to carefully study the geography, history, arts and cultures of Africa. We are excited to be welcoming an African explorer into our classrooms to talk to us in the last week of term. The children have been developing a deeper understanding of 'Earth and Space' after our Space Dome experience! In Science, we have also been following on from our 'Sciencedipity' day, furthering our scientific exploration of materials and their properties.



#### Literacy: topic based literacy

In order to ensure an immersive curriculum, we have based our literacy, this term, on a range of African texts. We started the term exploring the narrative of the boy Kamuzu, where the children used the author's style to predict the ending of Kamuzu's encounter with a baboon and uncovered the mystery of the missing brother, Bakili. Using key genre features, the children have then chosen their own inspirational figure, with an African heritage, to research and craft a biography. The year 6s have moved on to writing persuasive brochures for their favourite African destination and exploratory articles focusing on their study of space. These reference articles are based on the cross-curricular work in our topic and our science programme of study.

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#### Maths: securing number and calculation strategies

This term, the year 5s have been securing their methods of addition, subtraction, division and multiplication for increasingly large numbers, decimals, fractions and percentages. This has been through both using mental arithmetic strategies and reasoning to increase fluency and problem-solving skills. Year 6s have been focusing on accuracy of mental arithmetic strategies to ensure quick and correct solving of basic calculations. Reasoning has been a focus in morning and afternoon sessions where we have been incorporating key objectives into our topic tasks in order to put daily maths into practical contexts.

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### **Developing Homework:**

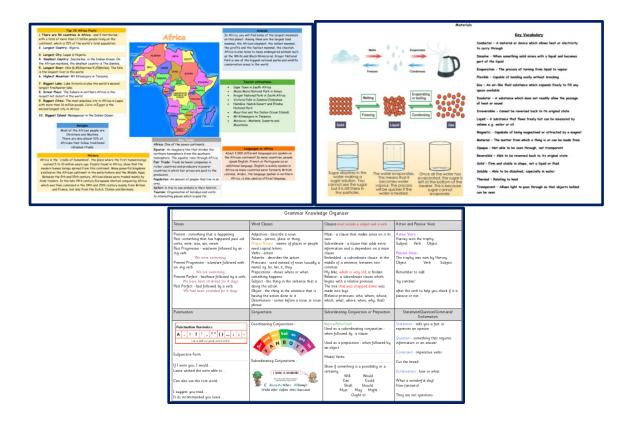
We have continued to develop our online tool called Seesaw, to share learning more efficiently between home and school. This is helping to support children and parents at home through video tutorials and specific tasks, which are set weekly ahead of the next weeks' learning as well as topic tasks. A parent of one of our year 6 students has since created an online app to work in conjunction with Seesaw to help children with their times tables practise: mathstest.org . We have adjusted our topic homework to align with our knowledge-based curriculum, creating Knowledge Orgainsers for all key areas in order to ensure key knowledge for all topics is committed to long term memory with the instructions that:

1) You MUST: learn the knowledge for sections.

2) You SHOULD: create a quiz for the knowledge in sections you have learnt and bring it in ready for next week.

3) You COULD: challenge your parents, Alexa or Siri to answer your quiz.

Knowledge organisers help children learn key facts and a wide range of knowledge to prepare them for lessons and the wider world. To get the most out of knowledge organisers, your child should be learning sections and then quizzing themselves. Low stakes quizzing aids retrieval and using memorised facts, alongside knowledge organisers, can help acquisition and storage of facts. It helps to embed learning in the memory.



## Enrichment:

Alongside the new curriculum strategy implemented in year 5/6 this year, we have developed our enrichment program to ensure continual growth and access to different experiences for all children. Some of these events have included:

- Community band
- BMX experience for all children
- Upcoming Diversity Day at Pilton for Year 5s
- Easter experience with the local Church
- Space Dome
- Sciencedipity
- Kilimanjaro Day with an African explorer
- Tuck Shop enterprise led by year 5/6 children and Claire Knight
- The Exmoor Challenge
- North Devon Sinfonia workshops for all children

We have also been developing our Forest School provision to ensure that year 5 are provided with weekly sessions to develop their team building and social skills. We will be developing this for year 6s with Cive Magson after the Exmoor Challenge is completed.





