

# Earthquakes and volcanoes

## Year 4 — Autumn Term 2



### Geography

This term we are learning about earthquakes and volcanoes. We'll firstly dive into what causes earthquakes. We'll look at its features and find the major earthquakes that have occurred around the world using latitude and longitude. We'll look at the impact that earthquakes have on humans and finally answer the question: Would you rather live near an earthquake or a volcano.

### Reading

This term we will be reading *'The Boy at the Back of the Class'* by Onjali Q. Rauf. It's a story about a 9-year-old refugee boy named Ahmet who joins a new school. Through kindness and empathy, his classmates devise a plan to help him reunite with his family. We will be developing our comprehension, retrieval and inference skills whilst performing fun and engaging lessons!

### Maths

During term 2, we have a quick stop tour on measurement—area. What is it? How we can count squares inside a shape to find the area and comparing areas of different sizes.

Afterwards, we're focussing intensely on our times tables. By the end of the term, we will confidently recite our times tables from 1x1 to 12x12! We'll be learning tips and strategies to help these facts stick in our brains easily!

### Writing

Last term, we read *'The Land of Roar'* by Jenny McLachlan. This term, we're using the book as our writing stimulus. In our first cycle of writing, we'll be writing a setting description and include the skills of using fronted adverbials followed by a comma, adverbs and organising paragraphs.

In the second writing cycle, we'll be writing a biography about Grandad—a character from the story.

### Science

Our Science topic is about sound—what affects how we hear and experience different sounds. We'll be scientists investigating how we can vary the pitch of sounds, how sound travels and go outside to see how far sound travels.

We'll also research how different animals hear sound and compare that to our bodies. The world is a very interesting place and you'll be surprised by how much you can learn, if you only listen!

### DT

In DT this term, we are learning how to make linkages and levers. We'll look at fixed pivots and loose pivots as well as sliders. We'll use all that we've learnt to make a moveable Christmas card for someone that we know and love. That's one gift to tick off the list!

### Physical Education

This term we will continue swimming! We'll learn how to keep ourselves afloat, how to keep safe and most importantly, learn how to have fun swimming.

We will also be developing ball skills—dribbling with hands and feet, developing throwing techniques and tracking a ball confidently. In our indoor sessions, we'll be learning yoga—exploring new poses, developing flexibility and strengths.

### Computing

Our Computing work will be focused on programming and how we can create shapes and patterns using commands. We'll write basic algorithms using basic text-based language, trace code and animate our names in different programs.

### Music

Using Charanga, we will explore and learn the rhythms and lyrics which make up *Mama Mia*—a much loved ABBA song. Using body percussion, glockenspiels and our voices, we will explore linked songs such as *Dancing Queen*, *Trouper* and *Thank you for the music*.

### PSHE

In PSHE we will follow the Jigsaw PSHE scheme of work. We will start the term learning about *'Celebrating differences'*. This initially explores judging people by their appearances, understanding influences and subsequent bullying. We'll learn how to solve problems and ultimately celebrate our differences.

### Religious Education

During the Autumn term, our Religious Education (RE) work will focus on Christianity and the Christmas story and why it is so important to Christians. We'll also look at why Jesus was born in a stable and the importance of the people who visited him.