



Road Trip USA!

Diamond - Year 4 Spring Term 2020



Connected Learning

This term's Imaginative learning project takes Year 4 on a road trip on the USA with a focus on Geography.

To meet the aims of the National Curriculum, Year 4 will develop their knowledge and understanding to:

- Describe and explain how the climate of a country or continent is linked to tourism and natural resources.
- Locate states and cities of the USA.
- Compare and contrast areas of the USA.
- Describe how physical activity has impacted on physical and human characteristics of the USA.



Maths

As mathematicians, Year 4 will be continuing to improve their arithmetic skills based around the four operations (addition, subtraction, multiplication and division).

They will apply both written and mental methods to solve problems, for example money and measurements. This will be supported with high level reasoning and application across the curriculum.

Connected Writing

As writers Year 4 will continue to develop their writing skills and develop their knowledge of key US landmarks, by researching tourist attractions in New York City. They will apply this knowledge by creating and writing postcards for family at home. Our focused text will be 'The Indian in the Cupboard' by Lynne Reid Banks. Using this text, the children will be putting themselves in the life of the characters to create diary entries. This will lead into our Native Americans topic, where they will develop their creative writing skills by creating their own legend.

Family Learning Opportunities

30 minutes reading daily

TT Rockstars daily

Recommended Reads:

'The Indian in the Cupboard' by Lynn Reid Banks

'Twist of Gold' by Michael Morpurgo

'The Enchanted Moccasins and Other Native American Legends' by Henry Rowe Schoolcraft

For additional ideas and activities linked to this imaginative learning project, please refer to the home learning idea sheet attached.

Art/DT

As artists, the children will continue to improve their drawing, in particular drawing key landmarks such as the Empire State Building. This will also draw upon their knowledge of geometry and the features of 2-D and 3-D shapes.

In addition to this, the children will have the opportunity to be experimental with different materials to create their own dreamcatchers.



Computing

In computing, the class will detect and correct errors in algorithms and programs by programming a vehicle to travel along 'Route 66', stopping at different locations and attractions.

This will link back to their geography, as they plot their route using their map skills.

RE

In RE, the children will investigate 'What do people believe regarding the creation of the world?'

The class will look at different beliefs and opinions and debate on these theories.

PSHE

This term, the class will analyse American icons throughout history and will discuss how they have impacted on the modern-day world.

Science

As scientists, the children will be able to identify a range of devices and appliances that require electricity. They will be able to construct simple series circuits safely, using a range of components and switches for control, and relate this back to what you would see in big cities such as New York City. This links well with PSHE, as the children will recognise the dangers of working with electricity and explain how to work safely.

PE

In sport, the children will focus on combining actions, movements and balances individually or collaboratively, to create a fluid gymnastic routine. They will then work on responding positively to challenge, demonstrating their ability to listen and respond to feedback. The children will increase their ability to move in and around water, exploring ways of swimming above and below the water. Some will be able to swim between 25 and 50m unaided, performing more than one stroke, using breathing and survival techniques.

Music

As musicians, the children will create and repeat extended rhythmic patterns using Ukuleles. Also, they will listen to traditional Native American pieces and describe how these pieces of music make them feel and explain why. The children will learn how to appreciate and listen to music from different traditions, cultures and composers.

Key Vocabulary

capital

A town or city where the government of the country is based.

climate

The typical weather for an area, region or country.

culture

The behaviour, customs and ideas of a particular group of people.

dreamcatcher

A hoop with a loose web of yarn, beads and feathers in the centre, which is believed by Native Americans to give good dreams and keep nightmares away.

icon

A famous thing or person that is considered to represent a way of life or certain beliefs.

landmark

A landscape feature that is easily seen and recognised from a distance, especially one that helps you to know where you are.

legend

A very old story from the past about a famous person or event. Legends are believed by some to be true to an extent, although this cannot be checked.

Native American

A member of a race who lived in North or South America before Europeans came.

state

A part of a large country that has its own government, such as in the United States.

tourist

A person who visits a place for interest or pleasure.

tribe

A group of people who live together and share beliefs, customs and language.