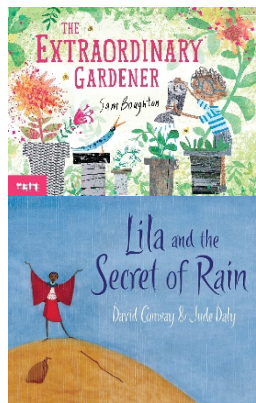


# Curriculum Newsletter

## Summer 2 – Our World and Beyond

### Robins



We've had a very exciting start to the summer term, focusing on the season of Summer! We've talked about seasonal changes in science, and the children have loved all of the gardening opportunities inside and outside the classroom. The Reception children will continue to focus on this, before moving onto learning about Africa. For all of us, our science work will focus on 'What should I do to grow a healthy plant?' We will investigate seeds and growth, and also look at the lifecycle of a plant. For Year 1&2s, we have started to make links with our Kenyan topic by introducing our core text 'Lila and the Secret of Rain.' In the story a girl from a Kenyan village knows they desperately needs rain, particularly for their crops and animals, so she sets off on an adventure to find rain. This will provide a great introduction into the climate, landscapes and people of Africa and we will compare it to the UK. In Art, we will be looking at traditional Maasai necklaces and also Kente cloth patterns. Our English writing will be a short story based on our core text, and then we will also design a travel brochure for a Kenyan holiday. On Monday we are very excited to have the amazing African Drumming and Dance workshop, where the children will get to experience and perform an African call and response song and then perform this to parents.

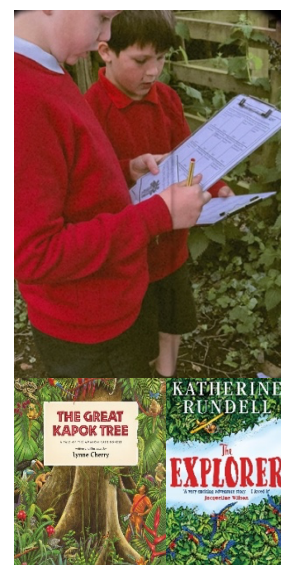


### Woodpeckers

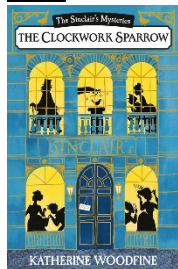
The children became undercover explorers at the beginning of the week, venturing the harsh terrain of the orchard to discover clues / facts about our topic – The Rainforest! Our core texts this half term are 'The Kapok Tree' by Lynne Cherry and 'The Explorer' by Katherine Rundell. Our learning started with exploring the senses and what we can hear, smell and see in the rainforest! The children will be writing a setting description, a dilemma story and a non-chronological report this half term in English.

In Geography, our BIG question will be – 'Why is the Rainforest important to us all?' The children will be looking at where the Amazon basin is situated on a world map, the layers of a rainforest and the plants and animals found within the Amazon rainforest. They will also be working towards creating their own Rainforest biome in a bottle!

In Science, we will be focusing on the BIG question – 'How can we make different sounds?' Exploring how vibrations from sounds travel through a medium to the ear, exploring volume and pitch and linking our learning with the sounds from the rainforest.



### Owls



Our new topic began with the children becoming detectives, as our new class reading book, 'The Clockwork Sparrow', was introduced. We had to gather clues that gradually revealed the book. It was a very exciting way to begin the topic and really captured the children's attention! We will be using the book to inspire a persuasive advert, promoting the opening of Sinclair's famous department store and a newspaper report, detailing the investigation into the theft of the priceless Clockwork Sparrow and a shooting! We will also be writing a setting description of the very luxurious department store.

In Geography, we will be exploring the question 'How can we interpret maps into the physical world?' and in Science we are continuing our investigation into how we can change materials reversibly and irreversibly.

We have an Art focus this term and will be studying the work of artist Stephen Wiltshire. The children will be producing detailed drawings of London or local architecture and working collaboratively on a whole class piece of work using just pen and paper.

