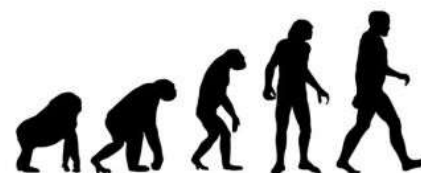


Year 6

Evolving Planet



Focus Book: Watertower – Gary Crew

English

This half term we will be reading *The Watertower* – a short but powerful book shrouded in mystery. We will learn about the genre of suspense and then write our own exciting and dramatic stories. Following that we will look at the subject of writing newspaper reports, using the events in the *Watertower* to inspire our budding journalists. Finally, we will explore some poetry, where we read the poem 'The Listeners' and from that, create our own narrative poem.

Maths

In maths we will build on our knowledge of the four operations to understand the order of operations and algebra. We will then go on to explore the differences between long and short division and the most efficient method to use when. Year 6 will explore and learn shape, focusing on area, perimeter and angles. We will also then begin learning all about fractions, ratio, measures, statistics and applying our maths to a range of investigation and reasoning activities.

Science, Geography and History

Science

Key Questions:

How have living things on Earth changed over time?
Why do we look like we do?
How do animals survive in their environment?
Why is the work of Mary Anning, Charles Darwin and Alfred Wallace important?
How do finches beaks help them eat?
What lives near us and why?

History

Key Questions:

Why do you think we study the Mayan empire in school?
When the area they lived in was mainly jungle how on earth were the Maya able to grow so strong?
What was life like at the height of the Mayan civilization?
How can we possibly know what it was like there 1,000 years ago?
If the Maya were so civilized, why then did they believe in human sacrifice?
How can we solve the riddle of why the Mayan empire ended so quickly?

Technology

In DT we will be creating our very own kites based on flight in the Rainforest.

Art

The children will be exploring clay-based techniques to create their own Mayan Masks.

Computing

In Computing children will be exploring the e-safety unit 'I am safe'. They will also be creating a presentation linked to their History unit.

PE

We will be developing dance in PE. Outside games will consist of invasion games – learning the rules and techniques of team style games (hockey).

PSHE

In PSHE the children will be learning about Sex and Relationship education.

RE

The children will be learning about Creation – Can science and religion both be right?

Music

The children will be learning all about 'A New Year Carol', by Benjamin Britten and composing their own music to go with a poem.

Languages

The children will be exploring French words and phrases about themselves and what they wear. They will be able to say what clothes they would need to pack for a holiday, in French.

Learning Values

Aspiration

What kind of aspirations do we have of our society, based on learning about how the Mayans lived?

Responsibility

We will think about our responsibility to our environment and to each other.

Collaboration

We will focus on communicating effectively - listening to our team mates to be successful, showing good collaboration.

Perseverance

How does Bubba show perseverance in the story of the *Watertower*? Or is there something hidden we do not yet know about?

Discovery

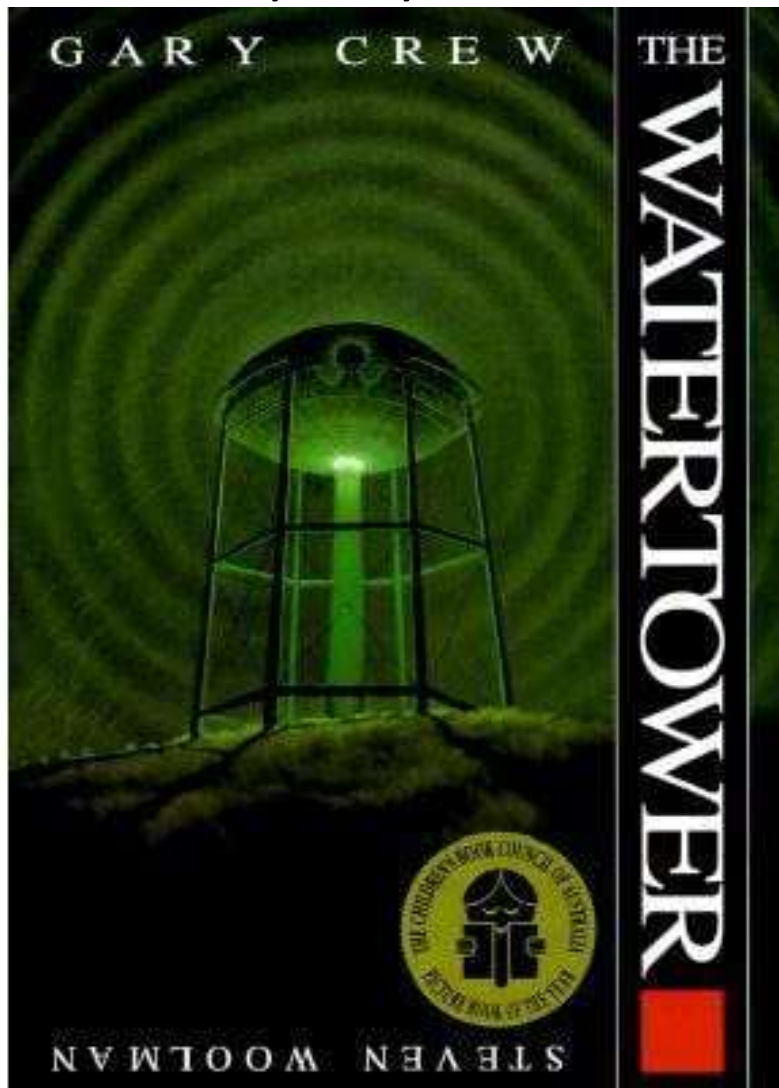
We will be discovering the best materials to use for our kites, to enable it to fly well.

Growth Mindset

In our Growth Mindset lesson this half term we will be looking at possible barriers to learning and identifying strategies to overcoming these.

Water Tower

by Gary Crew



Throughout *The Watertower*, the story follows two boys, Spike Trotter and Bubba D'Angelo as they go for a swim. After Bubba loses his pants, Spike fetches some from his house. When he returns, Bubba is not the same. ... Despite the participants looking elsewhere, up at the Watertower, it creates interest and mystery.

Other Recommended Reads Linked To This Theme:

The Viewer – Gary Crew
The Island – Armin Greder
Lost Thing – Shaun Tan
Eric – Shaun Tan
Boy in the Tower – Polly Ho-Yen