

# Y4: Does modern life harm creation?



## Impact

### By the end of this unit children will...

As global citizens, the children are taught to recognise the importance of sustainable development and understand the impact human activity can have on the environment. They will spend time researching and understanding the Amazon rainforests and the importance their function has on the rest of the world. The children will gain a curiosity and fascination about their wider world and its people that will remain with them. They will begin to explore some of the conservation issues surrounding the destruction of rainforest habitats and how our local community can assist in this.

## Intent

... it is our vision that our children will become advocates for social justice, fighters for sustainability, seekers of equality and leaders seeking to become "builders of a new humanity" (Pope Francis).

Through the delivery of this unit of work children will develop an understanding for God's creation. They will investigate what we as humans need to do in order to be responsible global citizens and what choices we make may have lasting impacts for future generations.

## Building the Kingdom

### Big Question

Does modern life harm creation?

### Further questions to explore during this unit:

Are we looking after God's creation?  
How does creation support life today?  
Whose responsibility is it to care for God's creation?  
How has the most recent global pandemic affected the environment?

## Catholic Social Teaching

### **Focus: Mary's birthday and The Holy Family**

What makes community? Who is in my community? Building up the community Building up the Kingdom of God

### **Focus: Harvest**

All things are connected enough for everybody's need but not everybody's greed Stewards of God's world Seeing God in creation

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## Core Subjects

### Religious Education

#### Creation and the story of Abraham and Joseph

The children will hear and learn about some important stories from the book of *Genesis*. They will explore some important images of God found in these stories and consider what it means for human beings to be made in the image of God.

#### Jesus teaches us how to pray

The children will learn about the prayer life of Jesus as he grew up in the Jewish faith. The children will be introduced to some prayers from the Old Testament and they will consider the importance of Jesus attached to prayer. The children will study the Our Father, the prayer of the Rosary and some other forms of prayer.

### Maths

#### Place Value

- Round to the nearest 10 and 100.
- Represent numbers to 10,000.
- 1000 more and less.
- Compare 4-digit numbers.
- Order numbers.

#### Addition and Subtraction

- Add and subtract 2 4-digit numbers.
- Estimate answers.
- Add and subtract sufficiently.

### English

#### The Tin Forest (Story settings)

Children will look closely at vivid descriptions and action. Looking at the setting of the story, the children will write an additional episode of the story using the ideas and techniques they have explored. They will be able to:

- Use their senses to create vivid descriptions.
- Use similes and metaphors to describe.
- Use powerful verbs to describe action.

#### Persuasive speech

The children will develop their understanding of persuasive writing techniques to write a speech encouraging people to reduce their carbon footprint.

### Science

#### Climate change

- The children will learn about climate change and the impact this has on the environment.
- They will gain an understanding of what climate change is and the causes of it.
- The children will identify what the greenhouse effect is and investigate how it works.
- They will use this to discuss how people are causing climate change.

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## Foundation Subjects

### History and Geography

#### Geography

Children will take a closer look at the mysteries of tropical rainforests. From the layers of the forest and its animal inhabitants, to the unique climate found in the tropics.

During this unit, they will name some countries where rainforests are found, label a map to show countries where rainforests are found, find the Equator on a map, tell you that rainforests are found near the Equator, describe what the weather is usually like in a tropical climate and name the four layers of a rainforest.

### Art and Design and Design Technology

#### Art

Children will improve their mastery of art, they will develop their sketchbooks recording their observations, using them to review and revisit their ideas.

They will be given the opportunity to:

- Draw details carefully.
- Design a mosaic.
- Make a puppet.
- Make a 3D model.

### Computing

#### Online presentations

The children will be creating an online poster.

They will:

- know how to combine digital images from different sources, objects, and text to make a final piece of a variety of tasks: posters, documents, eBooks, scripts, leaflets.
- know how to import images to a project from the web and camera roll

### Music

Children will develop an understanding of body and tuned percussion and use this to develop a composition around the theme of rainforests.

During this unit the children will:

- Have an idea as to when there is one layer in a piece of music and when there are two.
- Create two different melodies and work to play them together.
- Have a complete piece of music with four different layers with an appropriate structure.

### Physical Education

#### Yoga

The children will be practising their yoga and mindfulness techniques.

#### Netball

The children will develop their knowledge on attack and defence principles in netball. They will learn the basic rules of netball and be given the opportunity to play in competitive games.

### PHSE

#### Created and Loved by God

Explores the individual. Rooted in the teaching that we are made in the image and likeness of God, it helps children to develop an understanding of the importance of valuing themselves as the basis for personal relationships.