



Humanities Week at Moorlands



May 2018



The whole school enjoyed taking part in a special humanities themed week this week, doing lots of history and geography work linked to our topics.

The theme for this term is natural disasters.

Year 3 have been learning about volcanoes. They have looked at different types, their features and how they affect the environment around them. In addition, children have created pieces of writing based on the book 'Escape from Pompeii'. They have tried to imagine the thoughts and feelings of the characters and created their own recount of the tragic event. Furthermore, children have been using chromebooks to research the locations of volcanoes around the world and marking them on their world maps. They have also been developing their mapping skills through orienteering and compass work.

Year 4 have had an exciting week learning about volcanoes. We have made amazing 3D model volcanoes which have erupted using vinegar, food colouring and baking powder. Our dinosaur poems are very impressive as we have tried hard to use exciting, rhyming vocabulary. We have developed our map skills and have plotted lots of volcanoes around the World in the Ring of Fire.

Year 4 started the week learning about compass directions (8 points) and using compasses and maps to find and describe positions around the school grounds. Following this the children then created their own maps of the grounds, aiming to include all of playground features, paths, trees and the buildings. The maps were drawn on to grid paper which gave children the opportunity to describe the positions of different features using coordinates.

The water cycle was an important part of our learning this week and children were set the challenge of writing a short story - The Journey of a Raindrop - to detail their understanding of the processes involved. A highlight for many children was planning and creating their own 3D model of the water cycle to fit inside a recycled shoe box.

The final phase of the week has focused on preparing for our geography fieldwork trip - a walk along the banks of the River Mersey. We've discussed human features, physical features, how to create surveys and questionnaires. The children collected lots of information and made sketches of the river from different viewpoints.

Overall, the children have worked very hard and discovered lots of new information





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Year 5 have been exploring the wonderful country of Brazil. At the beginning of the week, we drew our own world map and discussed different continents and countries before focusing on South America. We have learnt about many of the natural and human geographic areas of South America. We went in depth and looked at the Amazon rainforest, learnt about the river, the layers of the rainforest and deforestation. We also tried or prepared some tropical fruit. Year 5 have also been practising Samba dance moves and learnt how to play Brazilian music.

This week, in **year 6**, we have been learning about natural disasters, how they evolve, the impact they create and where in the world they happen. Our mapping skills have been focusing on; North America and the South Pacific. Children have learnt about how volcanoes erupt and the role the tectonic plates play in causing earthquakes and tsunamis. Following this, children then created their own maps of the areas where they occur. Children also wrote in detail about the history and the

severity of volcanoes.

Leading into our earthquake learning, children learnt the theory behind how they happen and began creating earthquake proof structures.

Children have been inspired by their learning about natural disasters and have written a story linked to a disaster of their choice.

To finish the week, children have created their own volcano and witnessed the events that could happen, on a smaller scale.

Overall, the children have worked really hard, engaged with the topic and discovered lots of new information. They have shown creative skills making their structures and collaboration skills when working within a team. Furthermore, their knowledge of maps has been deepened.

Well done to everyone in Year 6 it's been another fabulous humanities week

