



REASONING



RESOURCEFUL



RESILIENT



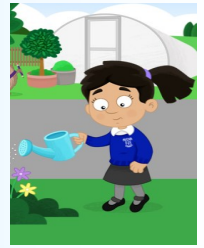
REFLECTIVE



RESPONSIBLE



RESPECTFUL



The Holt Primary School

Year 3 Spring Newsletter 2025 www.holt.lincs.sch.uk



Welcome to the Spring term!

I warmly wish you happiness and good health for 2025. Many thanks for your kind Christmas gifts. It was so lovely and thoughtful and very much appreciated. Welcome to the Spring Term and let's hope we can all have a healthy and successful 2025 building on the wonderful learning already started in the Autumn. Although the last topic was extremely popular, I have no doubt that your child will love our next sequence of learning. It promises to involve lots of real life issues that will get your child thinking about how to look after our planet.

Fragile Earth Topic

This topic will give the children an opportunity take a deep breath, and dive into the beautiful wilderness beneath the waves of our beautiful planet. They will explore how the human race is destroying the earth in which we will and they will develop a passion for change. They will learn that working together can make a difference and they will work as a team to discuss ways in which our school can begin this change. Our fragile earth will provide the inspiration for thought provoking writing and persuasive letters. As part of this topic, your child will also gain knowledge of volcanoes, earthquakes, mountains and rivers. They will understand some of the creatures of our world and how to classify them as well as being able to explain the water cycle. The ocean will be an important part of our Art work and recycling will be the inspiration for our DT project.

Reading For Pleasure

Reading for pleasure continues to be the most important thing that you do at home with your child. Please continue to talk to me or email me if your child's reading habits change or you just want some advice. Below are some good websites to support with reading at home:

<https://www.booktrust.org.uk/books-and-reading/tips-and-advice/reading-tips/>

<https://www.lovereadings4kids.co.uk/>

<https://www.beanstalkcharity.org.uk/Pages/Category/book-of-the-month>



This book is a wonderful celebration of poetry linked to the environment!

Both The Book Trust and Love Reading 4 kids have previews of brand new books coming out this year. Why not have a look!

Class routines/Reminders

Times Tables Rock Stars –continue to do this as much as possible. It remains a weekly KS2 homework requirement for all pupils so please continue to ensure that your child is in a regular routine. I cannot stress enough just how important learning times tables is and how crucial it is to a child's mathematical development. We continue to work on x 3 x4 and will be learning x 8 very soon!

Reading Books: continue to change books regularly when required. You or your child can fill in the reading record so I can easily monitor home reading.

PE day: Our PE days will continue to be on Tuesday and Thursday. (Please remember that long hair needs to be tied back and children are required to come in PE kit on that day. Trainers and warm PE clothing will be required as Synergy may go outside

Homework information

It has been fantastic to witness the progress already made with our Fluency. This is because you have worked hard to ensure the texts sent home are worked on with your children. Even 5 minutes a day can make a huge difference! These weekly texts will continue to come home on a **Monday** and your child will need to bring them back on a **Friday**. Any support you can give with this will help to foster a love of reading aloud. TT Rock stars is also a requirement for homework. Please continue to prioritise reading and times tables. I will also be setting our termly project very soon so look out for that too! Fluffy Friday continues to be a success so please remember that your child needs to bring a **book** to share **every Friday**. Can I also politely remind you that your child may bring only **one small fluffy item**.

Useful Websites

I think most of you have contacted me now via the year 3 address. Please use this rather than the enquiries website as this message will then come directly to me. Please also remember that any messages concerned with pick up arrangements need to go to the enquiries website as I may not always pick these up in time.

Year3@holt.lincs.sch.uk

Other useful websites to try linked to our topic are:

<https://www.planetsforkids.org/planet-earth.html>

<https://www.nationalgeographic.org/encyclopedia/riv/er/>

<https://www.natgeokids.com/uk/discover/geography/general-geography/ocean-facts/>



I would like to personally thank you all for the wonderful support you give to your children with their learning and for the support you give to me. I whole heartedly believe that the partnership we continue to build helps the children to flourish and make progress. Please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any questions through the term, however small they may seem. I am always at the other end of a phone or an email and I will endeavour to get back to you. Thank you for your continued support for our class webpage and on our school face book page. Your comments really do mean an awful lot. I am looking forward to the term ahead and to celebrating the wonderful achievements of Year 3.

Mrs S. Thursby.

Do your BEST, Be our BEST



Be Ready
Be Respectful
Be Safe



SPRING TERM Y3/4 Fragile Earth



Knowledge:

Volcanoes are made when pressure builds up inside the earth. This affects the earth's crust causing magma to sometimes erupt through it.

Active volcanoes have erupted in the last 10000 years. Dormant volcanoes haven't erupted in the last 10,000 years but may erupt again. Extinct volcanoes aren't expected to erupt again.

Volcanoes can be formed in three ways: plates moving apart, plates overlapping each other, a thin plate creating a hot spot.

There are 3 ways a volcano erupts to create shield, strato and cinder cone volcanoes.

The earth has 3 layers: the crust, the mantle and the core.

The Earth's crust is made up of huge slabs called tectonic plates that fit together like a jigsaw. They slowly move over a period of time.

EARTHQUAKES: Tectonic plates have edges that get stuck but the plates keep shaking and vibrating.

Pressure starts to build and once strong the plates suddenly move causing an earthquake. Earthquakes are measured by the strength of the vibrations known as the Richter scale.

MOUNTAINS are a natural part of the landscape with steep slopes that rise above 300m. They have a summit of at least 300m and can be grouped together called a range.

Fold mountains are formed by tectonic plates colliding and rock being pushed up.

There are many kinds of mountain-fold, fault-block, volcanic, dome, plateau.

Rivers: The source of most rivers is on high ground or in the mountains. There are 3 stages of a river- upper course, middle course, lower course. Some rivers join up with other rivers called tributaries. The place where a river begins is called the source and the point where a river joins the sea is called the mouth.

Water Cycle: clouds form when warm, moist air is cooled. When it is cooled it condenses into tiny water droplets which appear as clouds. Heat from the sun evaporates water into water vapour, which rises, condenses in the cool air and then falls back down to earth.

Climate Change:

- Pollution- chemicals can poison animals. Litter can be ingested by animals or trap them. Fertilisers can cause a lack of oxygen and kill them.

Marine Protection and Conservation- just under 25% of UK waters are protected. 71% of our Earth is covered by ocean. Tiny marine plants produce over half of the world's oxygen, the ocean absorbs carbon dioxide gases that make our planet warmer and billions of people depend on marine life to sustain their own. If our oceans don't thrive, neither will we.

Reducing Pollution- be careful what you throw down the sink or toilet. Don't throw litter into lakes, rivers or oceans. Use environmentally friendly cleaning products and be careful what you throw down the sink or toilet. Don't throw litter into lakes, rivers or oceans. Use environmentally friendly cleaning products.

Vocabulary and background knowledge:

mantle	A portion of the earth between the crust and the core
magma	Extremely hot, liquid rock
Tectonic plates	The earth's crust is made up of large plates that join together
crust	The outer layer of the earth
active	A volcano that's erupted recently or is about to erupt
dormant	Not active-but is capable of becoming active later on
summit	The highest point of a mountain
avalanche	A large amount of snow that quickly moves down a mountain or slope
estuary	Where a river meets the ocean
tributary	A small river or stream that joins a bigger river
current	The strength and speed of a river
meander	A curve in the river
pollution	Anything introduced to a habitat which has a harmful effect on plants and animals living there
Climate change	Long-term shifts in temperatures and weather patterns
Water cycle	The process by which water on earth evaporates
Global warming	A type of climate change where the earth gets warmer
Greenhouse effect	The process of gases holding warmth around the earth and making it warmer
Polar ice caps	Very large chunks of ice at the North and South poles of the earth
Endangered species	An animal or plant that is in danger of dying out

Recommended Reads:



Skills: understanding an atlas-identifying oceans/river/continents
Drawing and labelling diagrams-linked to Geography and Science
Using ICT for research-retrieving key facts.
Practical skills-designing and making using recyclable materials-joining/cutting/measuring

Making Links:

Mathematical- statistics linked to plastic pollution/percentages/understanding charts and graphs

Measuring liquids- link science/geography

Understanding measures linked to heights of mountains/depths of the earth's core etc

ICT- research/word processing/making power points

British Values

Democracy- rules against plastic pollution/climate change/write our own manifesto/climate protest/write to an MP

Tolerance- listening to views about how to make changes to our lives to protect our planet/Greta Thunberg

Rule of law- rules to help protect living creatures

Mutual Respect- respecting all living things/ways to respect our environment/make changes to our planet



Values & attitudes we can always show in this project:



The World beyond our doorstep...



Quality Outcomes & Experiences:

- Making our own volcano explode
- Climate change debates/action groups
- Writing a letter to an MP/Head Teacher
- Re-using materials-designing and making-DT project
- Organise a whole school Plastic free day.
- The Water Cycle in a plastic bag!
- Exploring the inspirational speeches of eco heroes- Attenborough/Greta Thunberg

Local

- exploring our own local environment. Pollution in the Brayford etc/Recycling plants in Lincoln. What happens in our local area to help our planet? Explore local councils.

National

- UK river pollution/know and identify main rivers in UK

International

- Blue Planet- what's happening to our world? Extreme weather because of climate change. What can we do to make a difference? Locating the ring of fire on a world map.