

# The Wilds of South America

**In Geography**, we'll be developing our knowledge of place and what an amazing place we are going to, the Rainforests of South America! We'll learn how different it is to where we live. We'll learn about biomes (regions of the world with similar climate, animals and plants) and vegetation belts. And of course you can't go to South America without learning something about the incredible Amazon River! There will even be a chance for us to learn about the natural resources found here, including ingredients for making chocolate, think: where it's grown, deforestation, the lives of farmers, suppliers and importers and the role of Fairtrade.

**In History**, we'll learn about a South American early civilisation, the Mayans c. AD 900, which provides a contrast to British history. Did you know that the Mayans established their cities in the rainforest? They also developed astronomy, calendar and writing systems, as well as building elaborate pyramids and observatories.

**In Music**, we'll learn all about Samba! You have to if you visit South America! We'll learn some basic samba rhythms and make group compositions. In the second half of the term we'll be identifying orchestra families, using Vivaldi's "Four Seasons".

**In Art & Design and Technology**, we'll be exploring the work of South and Central American artists including Leonora Carrington and Frida Kahlo. As part of this we will create 'dreamlike' paintings and dreamcatchers, as well as pastel portraits and clay monkeys. We will also explore the use of pattern in South America, including its use in carnival masks and headdresses.

**In Science**, we will be learning about animals, including humans. As part of our work on the human body, we will find out about the blood, heart, lungs, skeletons and muscles. We will learn about the body's defense systems, including the invention and use of antibiotics. We will also begin to look at inheritance and evolution, eventually leading to the study of other living creatures which will continue into the next term.

**In RE**, we'll begin by creating a respectful environment to ensure students feel comfortable to explore and share their own and others' beliefs, including a brief introduction to Humanism and Non-religious worldviews. We'll also be learning about the origins of Buddhism and how Buddhist values and ways of life compare to Christians.

**In French**, we'll be researching and locating French-speaking countries around the world and explaining what their weather is like. We'll discuss different modes of transport used to get around and describe journeys and features of towns before looking at French traditions for Christmas. We'll even re-tell the Nativity story in French!

