Year 4 – Topic 4

Rivers and the Water Cycle

Why are rivers important to us?

Learning Planner

During our next Geography unit of the year, we will be exploring the rivers of the world. As ever, we will focus on our local area by visiting the River Blithe (just down the road) and then exploring some of the major rivers of the world, and the surrounding areas, whilst developing our map work skills. As ever, we will be showing our learning through our creativity in our topic books.

Connect & Wonder

We will be travelling down the road to the most local river to us – the River Blithe and also moving on to Milldale where we will conduct measurements of the water level as we travel down the river. We will be sketching the flow of the river at three separate points. This will then allow us to track the source of the river on maps when we get back into the classroom.

For the Love of Reading

Our story to inspire this half-term is 'Gangsta Granny'. This instant classic by the brilliant David Walliams will make us laugh and cry in equal measure. Also, as we follow the story of Ben and Granny, as they plot to steal the crown jewels, we will learning about some of the key places in London – this will be great as we visit London during this unit!

Investigate & Construct

- **Geography:** In the classroom, we will be learning about the rivers of the UK (such as the River Trent and the River Severn). Looking outwards, we will be exploring the River Nile (in a geographical context), the Amazon River, the Mississippi River and the Yangtze.
- **DT:** Our DT this time links to Science, as we will be using our knowledge of electrical circuits to create a product that uses electricity to light it up.
- **Science:** We will be completing our work on electrical circuits where we will learn about the electrical symbols and we will be diagnosing issues in circuits, amongst other things.
- **PSHE:** We will be exploring positive and negative influences and online safety.
- **RE:** We will be exploring significant life events, both religious and non-religious.

Express & Reflect

The children will use a range of resources to show their interpretation of the water cycle and rivers. Let's get creative!

Key Vocabulary

River
River bed
Meander
Flow
Grid reference
Locality
Sediment