Year 4 – Topic 1

Earthquakes and Volcanoes

How do tectonic hazards affect us?

Learning Planner

During our first unit of the year, we will be focusing on Geography and earthquakes and volcanoes. Within this unit, we will be constructing our knowledge of the natural environment in Geography, Science and Art and be looking inwards to focus on our health and wellbeing in PSHE and RE.

Connect & Wonder



- We will be starting our topic by taking a virtual helicopter ride above an active volcano as we become volcanologist for the day. Starting the year with a VR Experience...WOW!

For the Love of Reading

Our story to inspire is 'Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone.

We have already started to immerse ourselves in the text and have enjoyed it immensely. We will continue during this term and discover more about the characters, the locations (including the Forbidden Forest) and what happens at the end!

Investigate & Construct

- **Geography:** In Geography, our focus is on earthquakes and volcanoes. We will be looking at tectonic plates and how they affect the world, how close we are to a volcano in Stoke and the advantages and disadvantages of living near a volcano.
- **Art:** In Art, we will be constructing our knowledge of the natural world (that are explored in Science and Geography) through Art as we investigate the art of Cezanne, create 3D art inspired by him and work with different textiles
- **Science:** During Science, we will be focusing on living things by looking at living things and what we have in the local area, classification and 'keys' to identifying animal groups
- **PSHE:** In PSHE, our focus is on health and wellbeing. We will be looking at strengths and personal goals, discovering what is considered realistic and unrealistic and how we can ensure that we have high and positive self-esteem.

Express & Reflect

ERUPTION TIME! Children will be challenged to make the best volcanoes to be able to create the most realistic eruptions.



Key Vocabulary

Tectonic Plates

Earthquake Volcanoes

Core Mantle

Crust Converge

Diverge