



Space Exploration

(Science & English)

Overview of learning:

This theme lasts for 7 weeks in the second half of the Autumn Term and focuses on the solar system and our place in it. Children will investigate the solar system and facts about the different planets. They will find out how people's beliefs about the solar system have developed over the centuries and about humankind's race to explore space and land on the moon and planets. Pupils will consider the benefits and drawbacks of space exploration, including the monetary and environmental impact. The pupils will also develop their literacy skills, using the theme as a vehicle and real purpose to write.

In **English**, the children will study a range of biographies focussing on the contributions of black women to Space Exploration. They will write a biography about Mae Jemison, the first, black, female astronaut. They will develop journalistic skills to report on events in space.

In **Computing** the children will develop knowledge of 'selection' and 'conditions' selecting different outcomes depending on whether a condition is true or false in our Selection in Quizzes unit.

In **Science** the children will learn about the Sun, Earth and Moon as approximately spherical bodies; the movement of the Earth and other planets, relative to the Sun in the solar system. They will focus on the relative size and distance of the Earth to the moon and other planets and the movement of the Moon relative to the Earth; they will use the idea of the Earth's rotation to explain day and night and the apparent movement of the sun across the sky.

In **History**, the children will investigate the history of space exploration and the 'space race.'

In **French**, the children will use writing frames to create simple, complex and compound sentences. They will also be introduced to a bilingual dictionary.

In **RE**, pupils will be considering the question: Why are some places and journeys special including pilgrimages and spiritual journeys. They will consider the sacrifices people make in order to do them.

In other subjects, the children will learn netball skills in **PE** and make a felt Christmas tree decoration in **DT** week. In **Art**, the children will create a futuristic image based on images from space. In **Geography** we will study the Alps.

In **Maths**, the children will continue to implement the White Rose Hub Maths scheme (alongside other resources) which encourages confidence and competence in Maths. through reasoning and problem solving. We will focus on multiplication and division and fractions.

In **PSHE**, the children will explore how we value differences and in **Forest Schools**, the children are developing collaboration and resilience.