



Dear Adult Stingrays,

Welcome back after the Christmas break, we hope you had a restful and enjoyable time with family and friends. We are really excited about our brand new Term 3 topic and the learning that will develop from it.

Term 3 Learning in Stingrays



Our learning journey this term is 'Road trip USA!' We'll start by 'visiting' the states where Native American tribes settled. We will use travel brochures and the internet to research New York and write postcards to family members. Using maps, we'll locate the USA and find the names of the states. We will also be exploring the physical and human landmarks of America.

English

This term in English, we will be reading the story 'The Indian in the Cupboard' by Lynne Reid Banks, which we feel will enrich the children's learning around this exciting topic. We will use this text to inspire our written work, writing from the perspective of different characters and writing a newspaper article based on the events of the story. We will also be writing about various places in America as well as some poetry and studying some Native American myths and legends.

How you can help your child

- Make sure your child reads daily and discuss the stories in terms of your child's personal reading targets. Remember to complete the reading record as evidence.
- With the topic in mind please discuss points of interest in the USA at home and encourage your child to carry out any additional research where possible!
- Discuss meanings of any new vocabulary they come across.
- We will be sending home a list of books that will support your child's learning around this topic, which you may find helpful to encourage further reading/research.
- Practise the spellings that are sent home weekly.

Mathematics

In Maths we will begin the term by continuing to compare and classify a range of geometric shapes which will enable us to calculate perimeter and area. Later in the term, the children will be learning to solve problems related to pounds and pence. There will be a focus on recognising and showing fractions, before introducing the concept of decimals and their equivalents.



Rye Community Primary School

"A Gateway to learning"

How you can help your child

- Look for opportunities to talk about maths in the everyday environment.
- Support your child and give them time to use mental calculation skills in real life contexts.
- Help your child to learn his/her multiplication tables.
- Look for areas of development on your parents evening hand-out to go over at home.
- Support your child (where possible) in their understanding of decimals as this will be a new concept for most.

PE & Swimming

PE this term will be taught by Mr Sayer on a **Thursday**. Please ensure that your child has a named PE kit in school.

Swimming will take place on a Tuesday morning (9.30-11.30). Stingrays will be swimming first and the Killer Whales follow afterwards.

Termly Homework Project

Thank you to those that completed their termly projects last term. Your traditional coins were wonderful and it was fantastic to see the effort that had been put in!

This term we would like you to choose one project (or more if you would like!) from the list below to share with us:

- Pick one of the US Presidents. Create a biography or an information poster about him.
- Help create an American themed meal for your family. You could prepare the shopping list or even better, help prepare the meal itself! You could share pictures of the event.
- Create your own 'dreamcatcher' (see pictures). This could be a drawing if preferred. Native Americans believed they kept nightmares and evil away whilst you slept.



End of Topic Celebration

To celebrate a wonderful learning journey we are inviting you in to take part in a celebration of our learning. This will be a fun and engaging way for us to share our learning with you first-hand. On this day children will be able to dress up as a Native American or a famous American icon for a day of fun! You will be informed of a date soon.

Thank you for your continued support.

If you have any queries do not hesitate to contact us.

Mrs Foster and Miss Shackel



Read our Term 3 curriculum

Road Trip USA!



Buckle up and put your sunglasses on – this half term we’re going on a road trip across the USA!

We'll start by 'visiting' the states where Native American tribes settled. We'll use travel brochures and the internet to research New York and write postcards to family members. Using maps, we'll locate the USA and find the names of the states. We'll look at the amazing lights of Times Square, make circuits and create a program for a tourist trip around New York. The story, *The Indian in the Cupboard*, will inspire us to write diaries. We'll explore Native American myths and write our own. After learning about their cultural significance, we'll weave beautiful dreamcatchers. Looking at aerial views of natural landmarks, we'll think about how they might have been formed. We'll create travel brochures and make illuminated models of different landmarks. Then we'll cook delicious dishes – would anyone like a corn dog?

At the end of the project, we'll make a 'journey stick' so we can remember where we have visited. We'll use this to explain our learning journey.

ILP focus	Geography
English	Postcards, emails, diary writing, myths and legends, poetry
Geography	Using world and US maps, human and physical geography
Art & design	Native American dreamcatchers, weaving, journey sticks
Computing	Collaborative databases and spreadsheets, using logical reasoning, writing programs, effective online research, digital presentations
D&T	Preparing US dishes, model making, totem pole design
History	Native Americans
Music	Traditional and cultural music
PSHE	Expressing opinions, stereotypes and discrimination
Science	Electricity



What will you choose to do?

- Use online sources to research and create a timeline of Native American history. Decide which events are most important, and write a caption to go with each date, explaining what happened.
- Native American symbols can vary in meaning from one tribe to another and across different regions. Symbols were used for a variety of reasons and are depicted on numerous objects. What can you find out about this mysterious language?
- Find out about the Battle of the Little Bighorn. Why is it such an important historic event?
- What were the Beaver Wars? Write a historical account that includes who fought, why beaver fur was so important and what happened.
- There have been many U.S. presidents over the last 100 years. How many can you find? Write a short biography about one of them.
- Write a speech for a tribal chief to make to his tribe. It could be to get them ready to fight against another tribe or to announce a forthcoming marriage.
- Create an advertisement to sell the cupboard that makes toys come to life in the story *The Indian in the Cupboard* by Lynne Reid Banks.
- Make a playlist of different American songs you could listen to on your road trip. Make sure you include songs from a range of genres, such as blues, jazz, country, rock, hip hop and rock and roll.
- Plan a second road trip, this time around South America. Plan your route on a digital map and write an itinerary.
- Help prepare a United States-themed evening meal by writing a shopping list for parents and carers. Report back to others using video or photographic evidence. What did you have to eat?
- Research the significance of words and phrases (such as harmony, nature, spirit, natural, soul, force of nature, orenda, dream and vision) to the Iroquois culture. Use drawings, photographs and text to create a digital presentation to record and share your findings.