

Year 3 Spring Term 1 - Curriculum Information

Tremors!

Tremors. Overwhelming and mighty, Mother Nature's awesome energies hiss and roar deep within the Earth. Plates collide, spewing lava. Rocks rain down and mud slides in torrents. Towns and cities vanish under ashen clouds. Discover the dangerous and ferocious world of natural disasters and glimpse their savage and deadly effects.

What happens when the Earth shakes? In this project, we'll find out about the dangerous world of natural disasters and their deadly effects.

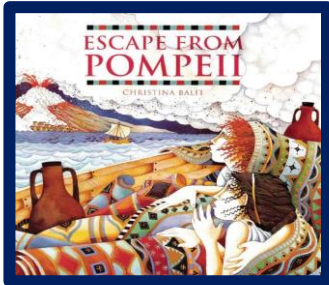
This half term we'll gather rock samples, find out about different types of rocks and sort them according to their properties, identifying igneous, sedimentary and metamorphic samples. By carrying out research, we'll investigate the Earth's layers and the location of volcanoes, discovering what causes them to erupt. We'll write powerful stories inspired by our work on the book *Escape from Pompeii*. Working as archaeologists, we'll locate Mount Vesuvius on a map and find out what it was like to live in Pompeii during the eruption. Using our model making skills, we'll build earthquake-proof structures and test them out. Which will stand after a devastating shake?



Helping your child prepare for their project

Earthquakes and volcanoes are fascinating forces of nature. Why not research famous earthquakes and volcanic eruptions, and plot the locations on a map? You could also hunt for rocks in your garden and sort them into groups by their appearance. Alternatively, you could build small structures from recycled materials and test them to see if they could withstand an earthquake!

Our Class Text – Escape from Pompeii



Travel back in time to view the eruption of Mount Vesuvius in the Roman Empire.

Join Tranio, the son of an actor, and his friend Livia, the baker's daughter, in witnessing the eruption of Mount Vesuvius in AD79. Tranio, like most Roman boys, likes to watch whatever is going on: tradesmen selling their goods, ships unloading their exotic cargoes, politicians making speeches in the forum. But one hot August day a very different scene unfolds. The ground begins to shake, the sky to darken. People run gasping for air. Heading for the harbour, Tranio and his friend Livia hide on a boat and witness one of the most terrifying moments in recorded history—the eruption of Mount Vesuvius and the destruction of their beloved city, Pompeii.

Curriculum Themes for this half-term

Innovate challenge	Design and make an earthquake proof structure using art straws.
English	Writing an alternative ending to Escape from Pompeii
Maths	Multiplication and division; length and perimeter
Science	Rocks and Soils, including fossils. Working scientifically
RE	Judaism How do festivals and family life show what matters to Jewish people?
A&D	Clay sculptures based on Pompeii figures
Computing	Branching databases
Geography	Maps; Ring of Fire; Earth's Crusts
History	Mary Anning (Big Me)
PSHE	Keeping Myself Safe
Music	Rhythm and percussion (drumming); instrument families
French	'ma trousse' – my pencil case.