



WALTHAMSTOW HALL JUNIOR SCHOOL

JUNIOR GEOGRAPHY

INTRODUCTION

At Walthamstow Hall Junior School we seek to provide the teaching and learning that allows our pupils to develop a knowledge of places and environments throughout the world. Geography is used as a focus in the curriculum for helping the girls to understand issues about the environment and sustainable development. In this way it is an important link between the natural and social sciences. Pupils will encounter different societies and cultures, they will develop a range of mapping skills as well as a range of investigative and problem solving skills both inside and outside the classroom.

KEY STAGE 2 STUDIES

The aim of the Geography department is to develop each pupil's knowledge, skills and understanding to the maximum of their potential. To this end a variety of teaching methods and classroom organization are used and there is a good balance between whole-class work, group teaching and individual practice. We recognise that children have different geographical abilities in all classes and we provide suitable learning opportunities for all children by matching the challenge of a task to the ability of the child.

Children's learning within geography at Walthamstow Hall Junior School is primarily based upon the National Curriculum Programmes of Study for Key Stages 1 and 2. The key areas of study have been allocated to each academic year and linked to the relevant QCA Documents. This ensures that all children have access to a broad and balanced curriculum, allowing them to gain the necessary skills and knowledge.

We offer our pupils an increasing challenge as they move up the school whilst also ensuring continuity and progression within each area of study. Topics taught to each year group are shown below:

In Year 3 the girls study Weather around the World, Kenya and also how settlements develop.

In Year 4 topics include India, Water and Improving our Environment.

In Year 5 the girls investigate rivers, learn more about places in the world through the topic 'Passport to the World' and then following their overnight visit to France they enjoy learning more about the country itself.

In Year 6 the focus is on the mountain environment, coasts and further developing mapping skills.

EXTRA CURRICULAR LEARNING

Geography contributes to many subjects within the primary curriculum and opportunities are sought to draw geographical experience out of a wide range of activities, including fieldwork. We consider this to be important for allowing children to begin to use and apply geography in real contexts. For this reason we include as many opportunities as we can to involve children in practical research and enquiry.



Numerous trips are arranged to further enhance knowledge and understanding. For example having learnt about Kenya in the spring term the girls in Year 3 go to Drusilla's Zoo where they visit the interactive Maasai exhibition and handle artefacts from Kenya. The girls are also given a talk about the sights and sounds of the tropical rainforests to support work done in the autumn term on the topic 'Weather around the world'.



Year 3 girls also have a field trip to Otford as part of their studies on how settlements develop.



In Year 5 girls have the opportunity to travel abroad for a one night residential trip to France.

Year 6 girls take part in a four night residential trip to the Isle of Wight. This incorporates a trip to Alum Bay where the girls investigate rock formations, take sand samples to identify different rock types and undertake a beach study to include rock pools.