

Cwmfelin Primary School Medium Term Planning

Term: Summer 2	Class: 3	AOLE Focus: Geography
Inquiry: 'River Deep Mountain High'	Question: How has the land shaped Wales and our local area?	
<p>Rationale</p> <p>This inquiry enables learners to explore the physical features of Wales by developing their understanding of landscapes such as rivers, mountains, valleys, and coastlines. Through hands-on activities, observation, and discussion, children investigate how natural features have shaped Wales and their local area of Maesteg, within the Llynfi Valley. By exploring real-life contexts, learners begin to understand how natural processes such as erosion, weathering, and water movement shape the land over time and influence where people live and work. Through practical investigations and guided inquiry, they ask questions, make predictions, and test ideas, building their knowledge of the natural world. The inquiry supports the development of key geographical and scientific skills, including observing, comparing, classifying, mapping, and interpreting information. It also encourages learners to think critically about how landscapes change and why it is important to value and protect Wales' natural environment. Above all, it promotes curiosity and a sense of place, empowering children to develop a deeper connection to their local area and the wider physical features of Wales.</p>		
Knowledge (Knowledge that)	Skills (Knowledge how)	Experiences (Knowledge of)
<p style="text-align: center;">I know...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wales has a variety of physical features, including mountains, rivers, valleys, and coastlines. Rivers shape the land by eroding, transporting, and depositing materials over time. Mountains and hills are natural landforms found across Wales. Valleys are low areas of land often formed by rivers over long periods of time. Physical features of the land influence what an environment looks like. Different landscapes can be identified and described using geographical vocabulary. Human activity and settlement patterns are influenced by physical geography. The local area of Maesteg is part of a wider valley landscape in South Wales. 	<p style="text-align: center;">I know how to...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify and describe key physical features of Wales using appropriate vocabulary. Locate mountains, rivers, and valleys on maps of Wales. Use simple fieldwork skills to observe, record, and describe physical features. Create labelled diagrams and sketches of landscapes. Compare different physical environments and identify similarities and differences. Ask and answer questions about how landscapes are formed and change over time. Use maps, images, and photographs to interpret geographical information. Communicate findings using oral explanations, drawings, and simple written work. Work collaboratively to share ideas and discuss geographical evidence. 	<p style="text-align: center;">I have ...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Explored images, maps, and videos of Welsh landscapes including mountains, rivers, and valleys. Investigated local physical features around Maesteg through discussion and observation. Took part in fieldwork activities to observe and record physical features in the local environment. Created sketches, maps, and diagrams to represent real-world landscapes. Compared local landscapes with wider examples from across Wales. Used geographical tools such as maps, aerial images, and photographs to support learning. Worked collaboratively to present ideas about how land shapes Wales. Shared and discussed findings through class presentations and displays.
<p>Cross-curricular opportunities:</p> <p>Literacy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Descriptive writing: Welsh landscapes Vocabulary development Oral presentations <p>Numeracy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Simple mapping and direction Scale (basic introduction) <p>DCF</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use digital maps and images Create simple slides/posters 		<p>Vocabulary: mountain, hill, valley, slope, peak, summit, landscape, river, stream, source, mouth, flow, erosion, transport, deposit, land, soil, rock, vegetation, habitat, map, sketch, label, fieldwork, observe, record, physical feature.</p> <p>Immersion activity: Mystery Landscape</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> rocks, soil, sand, water trays pictures of Welsh mountains, rivers, valleys, coastlines maps of Wales (folded/covered sections) natural materials (leaves, pebbles, moss) <p>Showcase: Art Gallery – Children will use iPads to capture landscape photographs, focusing on the key features of effective photography such as framing, angle, focus, and the use of foreground and background. They will carefully observe and photograph physical features within the landscape, such as hills, slopes, streams, trees, and valley shapes. Using their chosen photograph as inspiration, they will create their own watercolour interpretation, exploring colour, texture, and detail to reflect the natural environment they have observed. Parents will be invited to attend an art gallery showcase where the children will present their work, explaining their creative choices, including the colours and textures they selected, and discussing how their artwork was inspired by the original landscape photograph.</p>