



2<sup>nd</sup> September 2016

Year 5 topic – Existing, Endangered, Extinct: Living Things

Dear Parents,

Over the next three weeks, Year 5 will be following a unit of work on a theme that focuses on 'Living Things'. This unit of work is part of the International Primary Curriculum (IPC). Each unit of work is based around specific targets derived from the learning goals for one or more of the subjects.

During this unit we will be focusing on Science, Technology and International.

As Scientists, we'll be finding out:

- How and why living things are classified
- How a vertebrate and an invertebrate are different
- How to classify local plants and animals
- About the effects of food chains in our locality
- About friendly and unfriendly micro-organisms
- How fungi are different from plants and animals
- Why composting is good for the environment

As Technologists, we'll be finding out:

- How to make our own compost bin

As Globally Minded Citizens, we'll be finding out:

- How the international community can protect endangered species

All of the work we are going to do has been specially written to help your child reach the learning goals. Children will be reading, researching, writing, illustrating, working on their own and working in groups. We will be checking to see how well your child has learned through particular activities and asking children to explain their work, perhaps to you.

We already know the interest you take in your child's work. If you can, please discuss with your child the work they have done as the term progresses and let them teach you. Point out to your child the enormous variety of plants and animals that inhabit the Earth, and how each is uniquely adapted to its surroundings. Find out how changes in the environment can affect living things. If your child has some work to research, please help them, but without actually doing the work. If you have the chance to further their interest in the ideas of this theme please take it, but your enthusiasm and interest is most important. By the end of the unit, we hope your child has achieved all of the learning targets.

If you have any comments about the work your child is doing as part of the IPC, please get in touch.

Yours sincerely,

The Year 5 Team