

Berewood Primary School

Curriculum Letter—Autumn Term—Year Four



Theme Overview

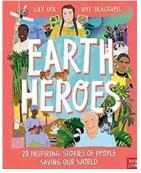
"Window on the World" is a thematic unit, based on global issues, with a key focus on geography. We begin by looking at settlements and land use, before moving on to learning about trade links. In particular, the Suez Canal as an important international trade route will be a focus. We will also learn more about extinction and endangered species, linked to captive breeding programmes.

Recommended Reading...











Access books online for free through Hampshire School Library Service. Ask your child's teacher for their barcode/login information.

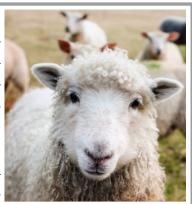
What we should know...

Settlements

A settlement is a place where a group of people choose to live. Early settlements were usually chosen because there were environmental features around that made it a suitable place for many families to live together, such as access to fresh water for drinking and washing, trees for building and burning for fires and flat land for building homes and growing crops. Many settlements in the UK have similar endings such as "ton" or "aster/ester" which have meanings in ancient languages. The largest cities by population are London, Birmingham and Manchester. The smallest village in the UK is Fordwich in Kent, which has only around 380 people living there!

Trade

Trading is when someone either selling an item someone has made or grown for something that another person has made or grown or selling their products for money. For example, in the southwest of England there were lots of sheep and their wool was very good quality. Wool traders would sell or exchange their wool for other items that they did not produce. As transport links have developed over time, this has led to transcontinental trading, with goods being both imported into the UK and exported from the UK to other countries. A lot of trade is moved from country to country by container ships. Some containers are refrigerated to allow for the



safe transportation of food stuffs. 12% of global trade passes through the Suez Canal in Egypt. This was blocked for six days in March 2021, resulting in a long wait for certain goods to arrive at their destinations.

Captive Breeding Programmes



Certain species of animals no longer exist in the wild. These are known as extinct animals. Many others are endangered and could become extinct without human intervention. Around the world, many zoos have introduced captive breeding programmes. These programmes are intended to preserve and grow the population of endangered species such as lemurs, tigers and gorillas. There are many reasons for extinction, including human hunting and habitat destruction.



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Key Vocabulary you should discuss with your child

Captive Breeding: The process of breeding animals outside of their natural environment

Container: a portable compartment in which freight is placed

Endangered: seriously at risk of extinction

Extinct: no longer lives or exists

Freight: goods sent to another country for sale there

Import: goods transported in bulk by truck, train, ship or aircraft

Resource: goods brought into another country for sale there

Settlement: natural or man-made thing that is available for a particular use a place

where people live and establish a community

Suez Canal: a man-made waterway that connects the Mediterranean and Red Seas, used

primarily for shipping goods

Trade: exchange or buy and sell goods

Transportation: the movement of goods and persons from place to place

Concept Flow

- To learn about different types of settlements and land use
- To learn about trade links, and the distribution of natural resources including energy and food
- To locate and study environmental problems faced by different continents e.g. extinction

Please talk to your children about the information on this sheet. The more children discuss their learning the more likely they are to embed the learning to their memory. If you have any questions please don't hesitate to contact your child's class teacher.