Why do zebras have stripes?

Cygnus Class Summer Term 1 2021

Hamjambo! Why do zebras have stripes? Where do lions live? It's time to discover amazing Africa and the wild animals that live there.

This half term we will learn where Africa is and what the landscapes, people and wildlife are like across this stunning continent. Who are the Maasai? What is camouflage? Where is the Serengeti? Let's find out! We'll learn about what school is like for African children, use our senses to explore a 'market stall' of African foods and make African-style pancakes to fill with delicious ingredients. We'll use our imaginations to explore African animals, record animal noises and write our own call and response songs. Using sticks, we'll make African-themed marks in soggy soil, and create an African landscape using sand, rocks, gravel and driftwood. In mathematics, we'll count and estimate animal numbers and in literacy, use labels and captions to identify animal traits. Then we'll get creative, tapping out syllables on drums as we talk and trying our hand at African printing. We will investigate African music and dance and have a go at making our own instruments.

At the end of the project, we'll make a book out of the photos we've taken. We will write a funny story about wild animals in unusual settings and play in the wild outdoors, pretending to be our favourite African beasts.

Areas of learning: Understanding the World	
Memorable experience	African dance
Innovate challenge	Amazing animals!
Communication and language	Listening and attention; Understanding; Speaking
Physical development	Moving and handling
Personal, social and emotional development	Self-confidence and self-awareness; Managing feelings and behaviour; Making relationships
Literacy	Reading; Writing
Mathematics	Numbers; Shape, space and measures
Understanding the world	People and communities; The world; Technology
Expressive arts and design	Exploring and using media and materials; Being imaginative

Help your child prepare for their project

Africa is awesome! Why not visit your local library together to find out more about this cool continent? You could also curl up on the sofa and watch *The Lion King*, *Tarzan*, *Born Free* or *Madagascar*.