

# Year 4

## ***Mountains and Natural Disasters***



### English

The book *Fox* is a short story about trust, friendship and loyalty. The story follows a wounded bird and the decision she makes about who her real friends are. The children will be studying how the author has used metaphor and themes of friendship to make the audience empathise with the characters. This will lead to the children writing their own adventure narrative with an alternative natural disaster setting and their own characters. Our guided reading sessions will focus on a range of non-fiction and fiction texts that are all about natural disasters.

### Maths

The children will begin by recapping time and deepening their understanding through problem solving using time duration and time intervals. This will then lead on to the children interpreting graphs and applying their time knowledge to line and time graphs later on in the term. The children will then learn about negative numbers and roman numerals. We will then be moving on to another area of measure, where we will be looking at money. We will use our knowledge of place value and the four operations to calculate and solve word problems involving money, including solving problems with answers up to 2 decimal places.

### Science and Geography

#### Science

##### States of Matter

We will be investigating states of matter through the following questions:  
What is a solid and a liquid?  
What is a gas?  
What is the best chocolate for a lunchbox?  
Where do puddles go?  
How does temperature affect water?  
What are solids, liquids and gases?

#### Geography

##### Mountains and Natural Disasters

We will explore our topic through the following questions:  
Where are mountain ranges found in the world?  
What is under our feet and how does this make mountains?  
How do earthquakes happen?  
How does a volcano erupt?  
What are the effects of volcanoes on people's lives?  
What is a tsunami?

#### Art Printing

The children will be using different printing techniques to create their own footprints inspired by the book *Fox*.

#### DT Pneumatics

The children will be exploring different pneumatics systems ready to create their own children's toy using pneumatics.

#### Computing Comic Life

The children will be creating their own comic strips about school life using technology.

#### PE Hockey and Athletics

The children will be learning the skills needed to play hockey. They will also be learning how to improve their athletics skills focused on running, jumping and throwing.

#### PSHE

Children will be exploring the main stages of the human life cycle, discussing growing up and how responsibilities change over time.

#### RE

The children will be learning all about prayer and why people pray from different religions and what helps them to pray.

#### Music

The children will explore the music of The Beatles and create their own poem to perform in the style of Blackbird.

#### Languages - French

The children will be learning to greet each other and present basic information about themselves (name, age, home). Our grammar focus will be to look at adjectival agreement. They will continue to speak, write and read, using these skills in French.

### Learning Values

#### Aspiration

After learning all about The Beatles and their music the children will aspire to create their own fantastic song like Blackbird.

#### Responsibility

The children will be responsible for designing and creating their own children's toy with pneumatics and ensuring all parts of this toy work.

#### Collaboration

The children will work together as a team when they play small hockey games within PE lessons.

#### Perseverance

The children will face challenges as they apply their learning to new contexts in Maths and will need to show perseverance to solve these problems.

#### Discovery

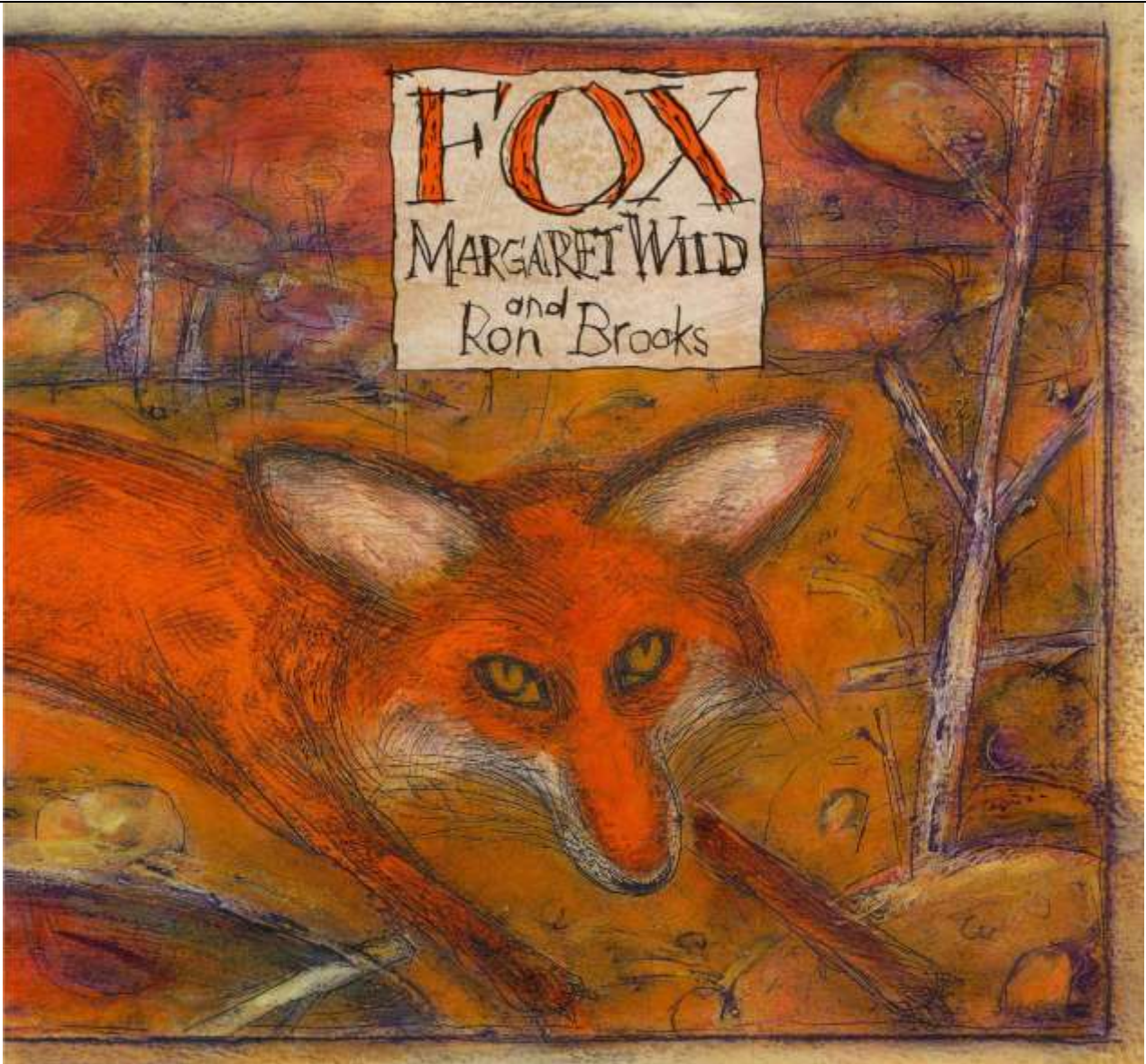
The children will be discovering all about how natural disasters occur and about famous natural disasters throughout history.

#### Growth Mindset

The children will be using their growth mindsets to help them persevere whenever they come across challenges in their work.

# FOX

by Margret Wild and Ron Brooks



Margret Wild departs from her playful characters of recent books for this haunting look at friendship and cruelty, geared to older readers. After Dog saves Magpie from a fire and nurses her burnt wing, the two forge a powerful bond. The one-eyed dog and the flightless bird travel together across a charred, leafless landscape, with Magpie feeling the wind in her feathers as she rides on Dog's back. "*Fly, Dog, fly!* I will be your missing eye, and you will be my wings." The mood changes quickly, however, when Fox enters...

## **Other Recommended Reads Linked To This Theme:**

The Rainbow Fish  
Tadpole's Promise  
The Selfish Crocodile  
Charlotte's Web  
Days with Frog and Toad