



Drake Class
Year 5 and 6 Theme Home Learning Activities
Week beginning Monday 22/06/20



History

Summer Solstice

Watch the following video and explore the virtual tour.

How was Stonehenge built? <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iy0CfYd1hWg>

Virtual tour of Stonehenge: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RyqU1r1Fmk>

Attached below is an information text about some of the Dartmoor stone circles and another sheet about the Summer Solstice which has some questions to answer.

Create a short project page/video etc. on Summer Solstice, Stonehenge or a site on Dartmoor.

There is some more information about Stonehenge on this site:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/z82hsbk/articles/zg8q2hv>

If you want a much more detailed document, then have a read through pages 10-33.

https://www.english-heritage.org.uk/siteassets/home/learn/teaching-resources/teachers-kits/stonehenge_teachers_kit_ks1-4.pdf

I have also attached a PowerPoint presentation to Seesaw.

Each Monday, the Homeschool History podcast is released so if you haven't listened to any at the moment, they are really good! <https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/m000hmmf/episodes/downloads>

Read All About It!

First News have offered a free version of their children's newspaper which I have attached it to the website as the whole paper is too big for Seesaw but I have put the first 20 pages on Seesaw So, find out about the world and what's going on.

Art:

Draw/Paint a picture of Stonehenge or a similar site or, if you have the resources, create a sculpture/model. Think about the tone and texture of your illustration to show the roughness of the stones.

R.E

Watch the Assembly 9: Treat Everyone Well <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wEo9CgLaTE8>

More KS2 PSHE content is available at BBC Bitesize <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/subjects/zqtnvcw> . In Community / Respecting Differences there are several more videos that may be helpful.

P.E

Joe Wicks – 'The Fitness Coach' <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCAxW1XT0iEJo0TYIRfn6rYQ>

Saskia's Dance School - <https://www.youtube.com/user/saskiasdancsschool/videos?app=desktop>

Kids Bop Dance Break - <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCqscMO1YfPB3-7dZZSxKPrQ>

Yoga - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4ZpkRACgws4&feature=emb_title

Also, there will be a number of activity and play resources, ideas, daily challenges promoted via the East Devon School Games Twitter Account: [@EDSchoolGa1](#)

'Lockdown Lifeskills'

Week 1 - Make a food plan and create a shopping list.

Whether you decide to make a food plan for the whole week or just for one day, you can then create a shopping list to buy the necessary ingredients.

Week 2 – Help prepare/cook some meals.

With adult supervision, prepare/cook one or some of the meals from the plan. Maybe you can find your signature dish – a dish that you know you can cook well and help the family out.

Eco-bricks

Keep making those eco-bricks!

Keep packing in that plastic – and keep thinking about what we could turn these eco-bricks into!

Also, don't stop with all of the other 'eco' things you may be doing at home: conserving water when you are washing/cleaning; saving electricity by turning off lights and devices; sorting out the recycling each week.

Any electronic work they produce can be uploaded to their Seesaw account or you can upload a photograph or even a video. Alternatively you can send it to drake@ventrus.org.uk



What do Dartmoor's array of stone circles mean and how were they built?



Scorhill is in a remote, beautiful setting

Much of our ancestors' history has been worn away over the ages, but at least some still stands. History is writ in stone across Dartmoor, where we find ceremonial, ritual and burial sites that give us clues about how people lived in times gone by.

"There could have been a lot of timber monuments here, which of course no longer exist," says Dartmoor National Park Authority archaeologist Andy Crabb. "We're only seeing the stone. We don't know what else was once here. But we can learn a lot from the

stone."

Andy and I are standing high up on Dartmoor, at Merrivale - an impressive archaeological site east of Princetown that boasts stone rows, cairns, cists, a standing stone and a stone circle.

Down Tor is a cairn, circle and row to the east of Burrator Reservoir

"It's clear that Merrivale was a sort of ceremonial sanctuary," Andy says. "It was an important burial ground and meeting place and seems to have had spiritual significance."



The monuments begin south of the remains of a settlement (containing over 35 stone round houses that belonged to ancient farmers) and are dominated by two stone rows.

Andy shows me the first, which is 180m long and sits north of the second longer row, which stretches 260m. It consists of two lines of granite stones running parallel. Its purpose is thought to have been funerary.



There are rows, standing stones (including the tallest on Dartmoor at 4.3m) and cairns at Dizzlecombe

"Most rows get taller towards the upper end, where there's often a cairn," Andy points to the cairn at the top of the north row.

"A cairn is a burial place and the row may have been a key part of the burial ceremony. The funerary procession may have walked along the row, or - another theory - the stones could

represent mourners walking up to the burial site."

The old word for these stone rows was Parallelitha and an impressive 60% of those found in Britain are situated on Dartmoor, 75 in total. The moor even boasts the longest row in the world (Staldon, which is almost 4km long). Some rows are single lines, whilst others are double, and one is composed of six parallel rows.

There is a stone circle within Fernworthy Forest

Some had thought that the rows were placed in alignment with the position of the rising sun on the solstices, but research suggests that isn't the case.

"What is clear is that Merrivale is a burial site," says Andy, "basically a very impressive graveyard and each row and the cairn at the end of it was probably for one person, somebody important."



"We think these rows were built towards the end of the Neolithic Age or the start of the Bronze Age when society was becoming more settled and stratified, with leaders at the top and the masses below. Before that graves had been communal, whereas the cairns at Merrivale seem to be for individuals."



Merrivale boasts stone rows, cairns, cists, a standing stone and a stone circle

The site is beautiful - high up, providing sweeping views of the lower valleys of the moor and the sea beyond, encased in a ring of tor peaks. "It's a great place to be buried," agrees Andy.

"It may have been chosen for that reason. We also believe this high ground represented the spiritual realms for our ancestors."

The stone circle at the southern end of Merrivale is seen to reflect that, thought to have had a ceremonial, ritual purpose. It is one of 14 known stone circles on Dartmoor.

"There were 12 not that long ago," smiles Andy. "We are finding more monuments all the time. The latest was discovered by a keen local archaeologist following a moorland fire."

The soil on Dartmoor acts like a sponge, so it is possible that a number of stone relics have been swallowed. Andy shows me the tops of a 17-stone row at Merrivale, sunk apart from their granite heads that are just peaking up through the grass.

Andy and his team hope to find the funding to use LiDAR (remote laser sensing) to ascertain what else lies beneath, swallowed in its entirety. "Geophysical surveying is another option," he says.



Merrivale boasts stone rows, cairns, cists, a standing stone and a stone circle

"Traditionally it's not great on damp, peaty type soils such as those found on Dartmoor, but the machines are improving so perhaps we can use them in the future."

But while the potential of buried relics on Dartmoor is intriguing, there is easily enough to enjoy on the surface.

The stone rows and stone circles of sites such as Merrivale are awe-inspiring, marking the presence of our ancestors and the high landscape they revered.

Go to dartmoor.gov.uk or visit the National Park Visitor Centre in Princetown to find out more about Dartmoor's stone monuments.

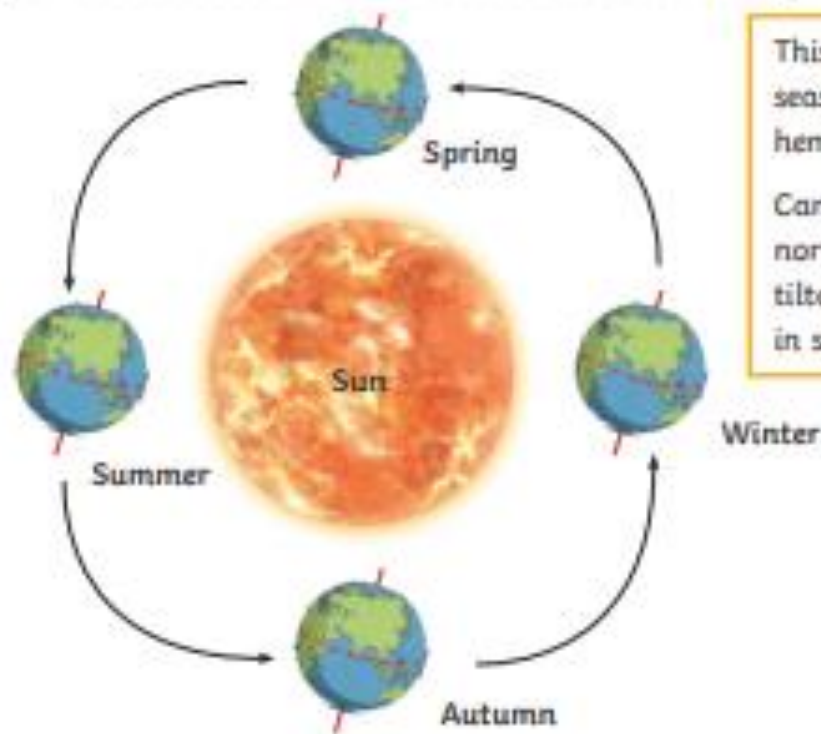
Summer Solstice

The equator is an imaginary line around the middle of the Earth. Countries above the equator are in the northern hemisphere. Countries below the equator are in the southern hemisphere.

Can you imagine a pole going through Earth from the North Pole to the South Pole? This pole would be the Earth's axis. The Earth spins around this axis. The axis is not vertical; it tilts the Earth over. This means the Earth appears to lean at an angle.

The Earth orbits around the Sun. This orbit takes around one year. At different times of the year, as it journeys around the Sun, some places on Earth are nearer to the Sun than others.

If you live in the northern hemisphere, Earth is tilted closer to the Sun in the summer, giving more light and heat. The northern hemisphere is further away from the sun in the winter and countries receive less light and heat.



This diagram shows the seasons in the northern hemisphere.

Can you see how the northern hemisphere is tilted towards the Sun in summer?

What is the Summer Solstice?

The Summer Solstice happens when the Earth has reached the part of its orbit when the North Pole is most tilted towards the Sun. It marks the change when the days in the northern hemisphere begin to grow shorter. The Winter Solstice in December marks the change when days begin to grow longer.



The word solstice comes from Latin words which mean 'sun stand still'. During the solstice, for people in the northern hemisphere, the sun reaches its highest point in the sky and after the solstice the sun gradually gets lower.

The Summer Solstice happens around 21st June. This is also known as midsummer and is the longest day and shortest night of the year in the northern hemisphere. On this day, there is the most amount of sunshine, if the weather is good.

Summer Solstice in the Far North

Around the Summer Solstice, northern hemisphere countries in the Arctic Circle, like parts of Norway, Finland, Greenland and Alaska, have daylight all day long. This is sometimes called the midnight sun. In the Arctic Circle, the sun does not

set and this is all because of the tilt of the Earth's axis.

In the UK from mid-May to mid-July, the Shetland Islands and Orkney enjoy the summer dim or summer twilight. This is when the sun only sets for a few hours so it never gets really dark. In fine weather, the islands can have almost 19 hours of sunshine a day.



Stonehenge, Wiltshire, UK

Solstice Celebrations

For thousands of years, there have been solstice celebrations around the world. The hours of daylight and the seasons were important to the people who lived by growing, hunting and gathering long ago. Today, festivals, bonfires and parades mark the Summer Solstice around the northern hemisphere.

In England, many people gather at Stonehenge, which is believed to have been an important religious site 4000 years ago. At the Summer Solstice, some of the stones at Stonehenge are in line with the rising sun.

On the Orkney Islands, Summer Solstice is celebrated at the ancient standing stone circle of the Ring of Brodgar.



1. Explain what the terms equator, northern hemisphere and southern hemisphere mean.

2. Explain what the Earth's axis is.

3. Why, during the Earth's orbit, are some places nearer to the Sun than others?

4. When does Summer happen in the northern hemisphere?

5. When does Winter happen in the northern hemisphere?

6. What is the Summer Solstice?

7. What happens to the hours of daylight in the northern hemisphere at the Summer Solstice?

8. Why do some countries of the northern hemisphere have 24-hour daylight around the Summer Solstice?

9. Where would you go in the UK to enjoy the longest hours of daylight?

10. What evidence is there at Stonehenge that Summer Solstice was in some way significant for the people of ancient times?
