

## Year 3 – Tropical Butterfly House

May 2024



Summary:

In May, Year 3 children went on a 'journey through the rainforest' during a school trip to the Tropical Butterfly House. The trip enhanced their growing knowledge of tropical animals and plants that you would find in the rainforest.

First, students participated in a 'Feathers, fur and scales' workshop where they engaged with an expert talking about the key adaptations of animals and how they survive in different parts of the world. The children were able to touch some of these animals such as a slink and watch the tamarind emperor monkey swing above them! This hands-on experience allowed them to really imagine what it would be like for these animals living in the rainforest.

Next, children were able to walk through the rainforest as they entered the Butterfly House which was very hot and humid! During the expert talk, they were able to identify a range of different butterfly species and watch the leafcutter ants in action! They put on butterfly goggles to really experience what it is like through the eyes of a butterfly. The children were respectful when listening to the experts talk and had many ambitious questions to ask to find out as much as they could about the rainforest.

The highlight of the trip was the children showing so much enthusiasm and curiosity about the range of animals at the park. There was a long sequence of call and response between the children and the raven which they found very funny!

As a follow up activity back at school, students did some magnificent animal artwork and 'adventure in the rainforest' writing. This trip not only enriched their geographical and scientific knowledge but also fostered a love of animals.

Ren- 'I loved it when the butterflies landed on my hand; they were so pretty and delicate!'

Vince- 'I loved the lemurs and seeing all the other different animals. I liked holding the animals.'

