



Reading  
30 minutes

### **Good Morning Peacock Class!**

*The text below is a little longer than normal but we are going to use it all week. It is the diary of a child who went to the Amazon rainforest!*

*It is also **very important** that we practise reading longer extracts!*

**Monday 1st August (temperature 27°C; humidity 55%; precipitation 0mm)**

Well - that was a long journey! 8266km to be precise! The flight from London to Manaus (Brazil) took 17 long, dreary hours. We arrived at the hotel about an hour ago and Dad has allowed me to do this quick update before bed. I'm pretty exhausted after all that travelling, so I'm more than ready to go to sleep now. I wish I had more energy though, as Manaus looks like a pretty cool city to explore. Dad calls it 'the gateway to the Amazon rainforest' as it's the perfect place to begin our expedition. He is hoping to organise some transport tomorrow to take us into the heart of the rainforest. At 10 years old, dad was worried that I might be too young for a journey like this, so I'm really glad he changed his mind and let me tag along. I hope I don't get in his way too much.

**Tuesday 2nd August (temperature 29°C; humidity 70%; precipitation 0mm)**

Did you know that the Amazon rainforest is the largest rainforest in the world? It's so big that the UK and Ireland can fit into it 17 times! After spending the day travelling through it, I can truly appreciate this fact.

We began the day sailing by ferry along the Rio Tapajós (a major tributary of the Amazon). The frequent roar of the howler monkeys was a constant reminder of how wild and potentially dangerous this place can be. We also spotted plenty of caiman (a member of the alligator family) sunning themselves on the banks of the river. I prayed that our boat wouldn't sink! Many, many kilometres later, we disembarked at the small town of Alter do Chão. This was where Dad had arranged to meet our guide, called Matheus. We spent a few hours collecting the supplies we needed for our journey before jumping into a muddy but sturdy looking off-roader, to be driven deeper into the rainforest.

Sadly, the lovely air-conditioned 4x4 has taken us as far as it can; the last leg of our journey needs to be done on foot. We have set up camp for the night and Dad is attempting to heat up some black bean and sausage stew on the camp fire.

Currently, I'm lying unsteadily in a hammock, attempting to write this entry. The hammock will hopefully help me avoid the many snakes, spiders and insects that wander around the forest floor at night. I don't think I'm going to get much sleep tonight!

**Wednesday 3rd August (temperature 29°C; humidity 82%; precipitation 10mm)**

Today has been tough! The humidity has been unbearable and we've been hit by two torrential rainstorms. Despite this, we've managed to walk over 15km through some pretty tough terrain. The heat and humidity have sapped my energy though; I'm tired, grubby and very sweaty. Nevertheless, the rainforest is a truly magnificent place. The trees are absolutely massive. They have smooth, straight trunks that shoot up for 100 feet or more, before branching out to create a thick canopy, high above the forest floor. Light levels in the forest can be very low at times, due to the thickness of the canopy. Matheus told

me that in the places where the canopy is really thick, it can take ten minutes for the rain to reach the ground. However, it's thanks to these conditions that so many species thrive here. Apparently, there are over 2.5 million types of insect living here - I think I've been bitten by half of them!

classroomsecrets.co.uk Rainforest Diary - Y5/P6/G4 - Text© Classroom Secrets Limited 2017

I have no idea how Matheus did it but he managed to deliver us safely to our intended destination: the village of the Wajapi tribe. It was late when we arrived so we have been shown to a hut where we are to stay the night. I can't wait to explore the village in the morning and Dad is so excited about finally being able to unlock some of the secrets of this magical place.

**Thursday 4th August (temperature 28°C; humidity 72%; precipitation 5mm)**

Today, I have discovered such a lot about the Wajapi people. They have lived in the Amazon rainforest for thousands of years and have developed a deep understanding of their environment. These people are completely self-sufficient. They grow their own crops and eat the edible plants that grow naturally around them. The river also acts as an important lifeline. They use it for drinking water, as a means of transport and as a place to hunt fish, turtles, capybara and caiman. I admit to being a little disappointed by the lack of poisoned darts being used for hunting. Guns now appear to be the weapon of choice. This remote village must have some links with the outside world.

Unfortunately, we have been told that loggers and developers are wanting to cut down vast numbers of trees in the area.

They want to clear the forest so they can make way for grazing animals and crops. The tribe are concerned about the affect this will have on the indigenous plants and animals. Dad has promised to do all he can to help protect this area.

Dad spent many hours talking to a very important person: the shaman. The shaman has great knowledge of the local plants and animals and it's believed that he can even communicate with them. Dad is primarily here to discuss the shaman's

knowledge of medicinal plants. Over time, this tribe have learnt how to utilise the healing properties of the plants growing naturally around them. Dad has always believed that the cure to many diseases and ailments can be found in the plants of the rainforest. Luckily, the shaman has allowed him to take some samples of the plants they use. I have my fingers crossed that these samples will help Dad find the answers he has been looking for.

**Friday 5th August (temperature 30°C; humidity 79%; precipitation 0mm)**

Today has been hot and humid (as usual) but at least it hasn't rained! I spent a fun morning playing with some children who were a similar age to me. We had great fun trying to understand each other with the help of a bit of sign language and mime. Sadly, it was also time to go.

The trek back to the 4x4 didn't seem as bad this time. I must be getting used to these humid conditions. Although when Matheus turned on the air-conditioning, I thought I'd died and gone to heaven. Bliss! We've a long drive ahead of us now before reaching the town of Alter do Chão. Dad wants to spend the night there before sailing back to Manaus, ready to catch the flight home.

Even though I've found the rainforest incredibly tough at times, I'll never forget this once in a lifetime experience. I intend to keep this diary in a very safe place, so when I'm old and forgetful, I'll still be able to recall my days of adventure.

**Section A**

Circle the correct answer.

The distance from London to Manaus is...

6822km	8266km	8262km	8622km
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Their guide was called...

Martin	Mattie	Matthew	Matheus
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On Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> August, the humidity was...

84%	88%	82%	28%
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Dad spent a lot of time talking to the...

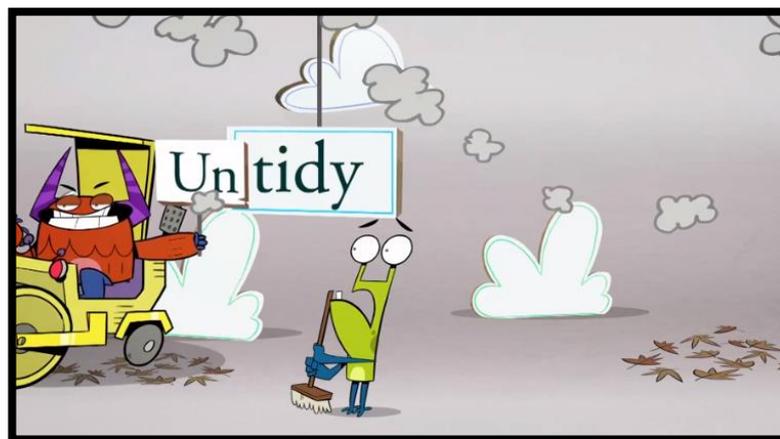
shaman	healer	witchdoctor	elder
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Dad thought the cure for many diseases and ailments could be found in the...

animals	water	air	plants
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GPS warm-up  
10 minutes

**These are your 10 spellings for the week - We are going to focus on words with prefixes...**



<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/z8mxrwx/articles/z9hjwxs>

Prefixes are a group of letters that change the meaning of a word when they are added to the start. Most prefixes mean a similar thing when they're added to different words.

**Midfield preview forethought nonadjustable forecast  
midday submarine untidy redecorate disappear**

## Prefixes - 'mid' 'pre' 'fore' and 'non'

**Prefixes**

Prefixes can tell us useful information about a root word.  
 'mid-' means 'middle'. 'pre-' and 'fore-' mean 'before'. 'non-' means 'not'.

midfield      preview      forethought      nonadjustable

**Remember** — when you add a prefix, the spelling of the root word does not change.

**1** Circle the prefixes in the sentences below.

The midterm test will take place on Tuesday.  
 If you would like to take part, you need to preregister.  
 The problem with pollution is at the forefront of the agenda.

**2** Fill in the gaps in the words below using the correct prefixes from the box.

mid-      pre-      fore-      non-

.....mature      .....head      .....fiction  
 .....ground      .....date      .....way  
 .....summer      .....week      .....program

**3** Complete the words in these sentences using mid-, pre-, fore- or non-.

Fortune tellers believe they can .....see what will happen in the future.  
 To make sure we get a seat, we had better .....book our tickets.  
 Cerys always has a .....morning snack at her desk at work.  
 Barack was disappointed that he had ordered a .....refillable drink.  
 The cricketer caught the ball in .....air to win the match for his team.  
 A pink stretch limo pulled up in the .....court of the house.

Writing  
30 minutes



Today in English, we are going to carry on focusing on using prefixes in our writing. Complete the activities below:

4 Circle the correct spelling of each word to complete the sentences below.

The weather midcast / forecast for the weekend looks awful.

Cheryl loves football — she's a great midfielder / forefielder.

The presection / midsection of the boat sprang a leak.

The toddlers play happily together at nonschool / preschool.

All the animals take a nap at midday / preday to avoid the heat of the sun.

Forewinter / Midwinter in the jungle is still very hot.

Three long distance runners were nonselected / preselected for the Olympics.

I'm looking forward to a quick foreview / preview of my friend's new film.

5 One word is spelt with the wrong prefix in each of the sentences below. Rewrite the sentences on the dotted lines so that all the words are spelt correctly.

The jungle ball ends at forenight with fireworks.  
.....

I can't understand my little brother — he speaks presense.  
.....

Crocodiles look like nonhistoric creatures.  
.....

The workers received instructions from the midman.  
.....

The children were at the prepoint of the project.  
.....

Now write 5 of your own sentences using prefixes - you could use this week's spellings!

Arithmetic  
10 minutes



Adding 4-digit numbers

Some animals entered a contest. Add the votes to find out their scores.

1 Skateboarding cat



$$\begin{array}{r} 3564 \\ 3252 \\ + 4053 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

4 Talking dog



$$\begin{array}{r} 4722 \\ 1846 \\ + 6631 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

7 Jumping cow



$$\begin{array}{r} 4527 \\ 4635 \\ + 4258 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

2 Whispering horse



$$\begin{array}{r} 2745 \\ 5352 \\ + 4353 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

5 Skipping frog



$$\begin{array}{r} 1647 \\ 3846 \\ + 3738 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

8 Hang-gliding hamster



$$\begin{array}{r} 2738 \\ 8452 \\ + 2364 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

3 Ice-skating mouse



$$\begin{array}{r} 3816 \\ 1846 \\ + 4750 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

6 Dancing mole



$$\begin{array}{r} 5868 \\ 986 \\ + 6415 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

9 Swimming bird

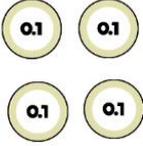
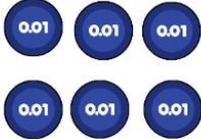


$$\begin{array}{r} 8352 \\ 635 \\ + 1258 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

10 Which animal won the contest?

Maths  
30 minutes

**Decimals up to 2 decimal places**

Ones	Tenths	Hundredths
		
0	4	6

### Decimal numbers

A decimal is a way of writing a number that is **not whole**.

Decimal numbers are 'in between' numbers. For example, 10.4 is in between the numbers 10 and 11. It is **more than 10**, but **less than 11**.



Take care when reading the values of decimal numbers.

4.2 means 4 and 2 tenths.

4.20 means 4 and 2 tenths and 0 one-hundredths. The last zero does not need to be there.

4.02 means 4 and 0 tenths and 2 one-hundredths.

**Watch Week 1 Lesson 1 and complete the activity.**

You will also find the activity on the Year 5 Home Learning Portal

<https://whiterosemaths.com/homelearning/year-5/>

Enquiry/Project work  
30 minutes

This week's topic is PSHE.

Today we are going to look at some Chill Skills!



Try out these 5 exercises...which one works for you?

### 1) **Tension/Relaxation**

Imagine you are holding something precious and you don't want to let go. Clench your hands as tight as you can and then relax them. Repeat this exercise.

Benefits: self-awareness and encourages children to understand the difference between tension and relaxation

### 2) **Shoulder and Scalp Massage**

Give your head and neck a massage. Rub, pat, stroke and tap your scalp with your fingers. Massage one shoulder with the opposite hand.

Benefits: improves circulation stimulates lymphatic system, helps relax muscles and calms the nerves

### 3) **Floating Tongue**

Hold your tongue in your mouth for as long as you can without letting it touch any part of your mouth. Now, clench your jaw tight and relax it slowly. Let your tongue and jaw completely relax

### 4) **Long Breaths**

Take in a deep breath, put your lips together to make a small O and let out a soft slow and steady breath. Repeat 3 times.

Benefits: helps calm the nerves and allows fresh oxygen to the system

### 5) **Deep Breaths**

Take in a deep breath for a count of four. As you breathe in, breathe right into the stomach and try to keep your shoulders down. Hold for count of four and breathe out for a count of eight. Repeat this 4 times.

Benefits: develops concentration and clarity

*Tip: Try listening to some relaxing sounds or music while you complete one of the exercises above.*

*Here are some links:*

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qFZKK7K52uQ>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WUXEeAXywCY>

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=U\\_gtzGSNcCI](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=U_gtzGSNcCI)



*Namaste Peacock Class!*

**Take Care!**

