



# Google Expeditions

On Wednesday April 26<sup>th</sup>, we had our Google Expeditions Day. Children were able to experience panoramic views and virtual 3D scenes including the Solar System, Rainforests, Egypt, Castles, Kruger National Park and the digestive system.

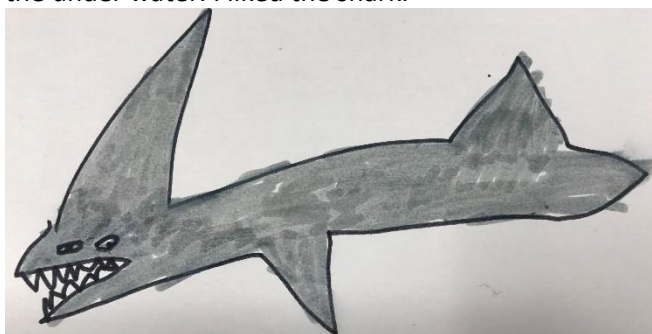
The children were so excited by their experiences, we thought we would share some of their thoughts about the day along with a few photos.

The free 'Google Expeditions' app can be downloaded onto Android or Apple phones and devices. A phone is more suitable for the 3D experience of the app, as this fits the 3D viewer.



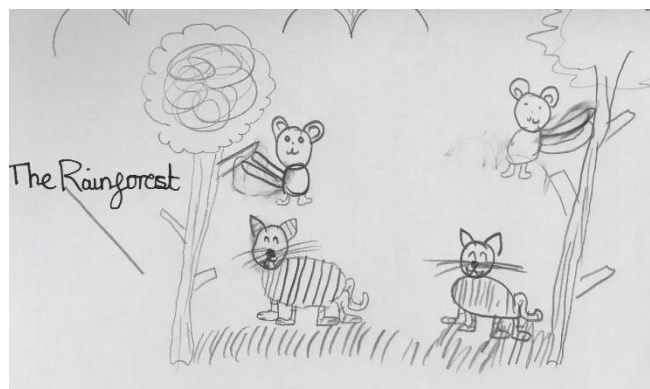
KS1 children used the 2D option to give them panoramic views of their chosen expedition.

Charlie in Year 1 said, "I could see lots of animals. I like the under water. I liked the shark."



Matilda in Year 3 wrote, 'Today it was Google Expedition Day and it was awesome. I had lots of fun.

Firstly, you would put the goggles on your eyes and your teacher would click on the scene your class had chosen. Our class chose the Amazon Rainforest. When we saw one of the pictures it looked like we were stuck in a tropical rainforest that was transformed into a cylinder. We also looked at a scene under water and it was epic. We saw dolphins that were swimming happily. Finally, one of the pictures we saw had a killer whale in it and everybody gasped. I was also shocked.' She also drew a picture of the rainforest to show what she had seen.



Year 6 had this to say about the day.

"It was really thrilling because it was like you were almost there witnessing it in real life. The digestive system was realistic with all of the different textures of the organs." Emma

"I downloaded the app at home and I find it really interesting. I've got my own virtual reality goggles. I looked at the British Museum. I saw lots of Victorian exhibits without leaving home." Joseph

"I liked the digestive system because it was on a large scale and I felt so tiny because I knew that all of this was inside me and I was looking at it." Rachel

"I really enjoyed the Google expeditions visit especially when we looked at the volcanoes. We could actually experience what was happening without leaving the school. It is also much safer." Anna Sofia



Year 5 also had a lot to say about their Expeditions. Mia said, "I think the Google Day was really good. I wish I could do more of it because it's really cool looking at things that you might not ever see. I liked it when we looked up in space and in the oceans."

Hannah thought that it was really interesting because you could look around and when the arrows pointed to certain objects you could see fascinating things." I could see little details that I hadn't seen before."

Adi said," It was really fun because we actually got to feel that we were in the place that was shown to us. We saw space, which was my favourite scene. It is





# Google Expeditions

interesting because nobody knows what is there and it is a mystery."

Zoya said that it was really interesting to see different places around the world. "We looked at Egypt and I saw lots of buildings and pyramids and we also saw shops. I have never been to Egypt but now I have seen what it is like."

Maddie said, "You get to look around at places you wish to go. I got to see New York. I got to see the Statue of Liberty, which I have always wanted to see. It has made me want to go there even more."



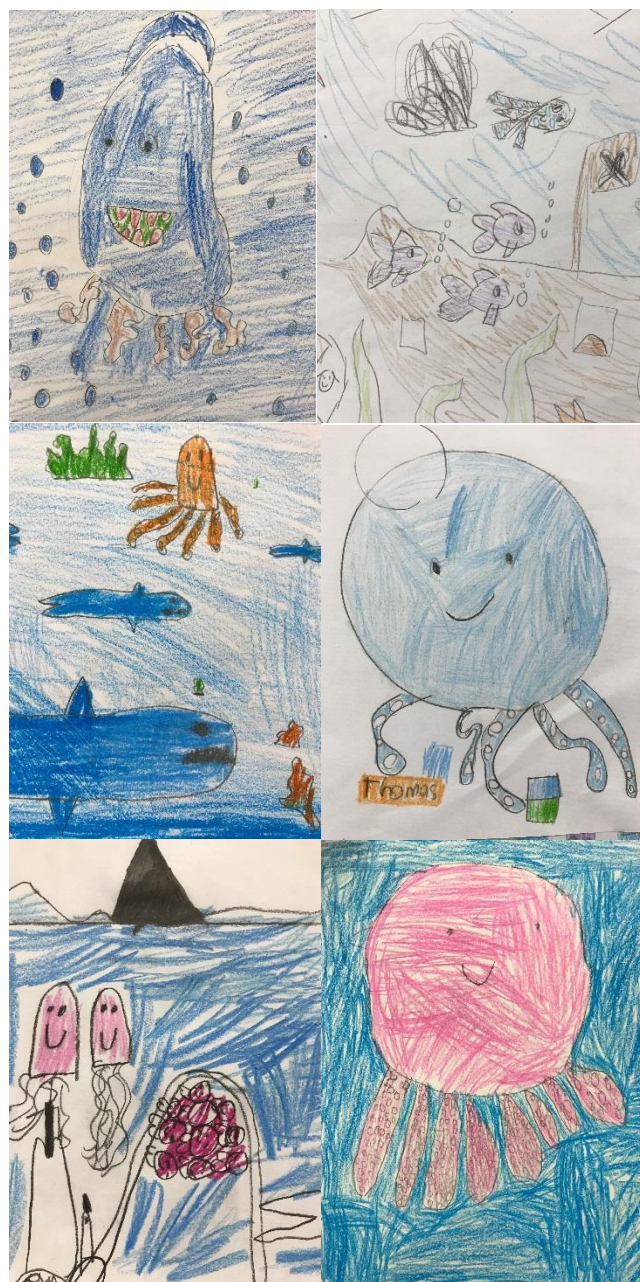
Year 4 also had thoughts about the day. "I think it was appropriate for our age group. We were able to understand and appreciate what a good opportunity it was." Ruby

"I think it was nice to have an Egypt theme because our topic is Egypt. That made me learn more about it." Aaliyah

"I downloaded it at home. I like it because it shows you what things are and the circles show you things more closely. There are facts to help you learn." Lizzy



Year 2 drew their favourite scenes. It is clear from their drawings which Expedition was the most popular. Thanks to Aarush, Joshua, Alfie, Thomas, Tom and Nishi for their fabulous under the sea art work.



The staff had a thoroughly enjoyable experience too. Miss Hodgetts said, "The Google Expedition experience proved to be SO exciting and such a fabulous 'teaching tool'. I found it clear and accessible even for a non- techno bod who tries but can be wary! The children were totally captivated as was I ...Thank you."

If you would like to share the experience, the Google Cardboard viewer, or any similar 3D viewer, can be bought from Amazon or E-bay and the price should be around £3. You can buy them ready made, or you can get them in kit form for you and your child to put together.