

Geography: National Curriculum Overview

FOUNDATION STAGE	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To comment and ask questions about aspects of their familiar world, such as the place where they live or the natural world. To talk about some of the things they have observed, such as plants, animals, natural and found objects. To talk about why things happen and how things work. To develop an understanding of growth, decay and changes over time. To show care and concern for living things and the environment. To look closely at similarities, differences, patterns and change. To talk about past and present events in their own lives and in the lives of family members. To know about similarities and differences between themselves and others, and among families, communities and traditions. To know about similarities and differences in relation to places, objects, materials and living things. They talk about the features of their own immediate environment and how environments might vary from one another. 	
KEY STAGE ONE	
National Curriculum Requirements	Geography Unit
name and locate the world's seven continents and five oceans	Continents and Oceans (Y1) The Oceans (Y2)
name, locate and identify characteristics of the four countries and capital cities of the United Kingdom and its surrounding seas	The United Kingdom (Y1+2) England and London (Y1) One other UK country (Y2)
understand geographical similarities and differences through studying the human and physical geography of a small area of the United Kingdom, and of a small area in a contrasting non-European country	Where we live (Y1) Sydney, Australia (Y2)
identify seasonal and daily weather patterns in the United Kingdom and the location of hot and cold areas of the world in relation to the Equator and the North and South Poles	Weather and Climate (Y1) Extreme weather (Y2)
use basic geographical vocabulary to refer to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ key physical features, including: beach, cliff, coast, forest, hill, mountain, sea, ocean, river, soil, valley, vegetation, season and weather 	Covered throughout all units of work (Y1+2)
use basic geographical vocabulary to refer to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ key human features, including: city, town, village, factory, farm, house, office, port, harbour and shop 	Covered throughout all units of work (Y1+2)

use world maps, atlases and globes to identify the United Kingdom and its countries, as well as the countries, continents and oceans studied at this key stage	Mapping the world + other units (Y1+2)
use simple compass directions (North, South, East and West) and locational and directional language [for example, near and far; left and right], to describe the location of features and routes on a map	Mapping the world + other units (Y1+2)
use aerial photographs and plan perspectives to recognise landmarks and basic human and physical features; devise a simple map; and use and construct basic symbols in a key	Where we live (Y1) Australia, Sydney (Y2)
use simple fieldwork and observational skills to study the geography of their school and its grounds and the key human and physical features of its surrounding environment.	Where we live (Y1) Australia, Sydney (Y2)

Ensure when covering these areas that staff are aware of the requirements of the NC e.g Sydney looking at ports and beaches, Derby and Derbyshire looking at farming.

KEY STAGE TWO	
National Curriculum Requirements	Geography Unit
locate the world's countries, using maps to focus on Europe (including the location of Russia) and North and South America, concentrating on their environmental regions, key physical and human characteristics, countries, and major cities	Europe + European Mountains (Y3) European Populations and rivers (Y4)
name and locate counties and cities of the United Kingdom, geographical regions and their identifying human and physical characteristics, key topographical features (including hills, mountains, coasts and rivers), and land-use patterns; and understand how some of these aspects have changed over time	Covered in mountains and rivers (Y3, 4) Coasts (Y6)
identify the position and significance of latitude, longitude, Equator, Northern Hemisphere, Southern Hemisphere, the Tropics of Cancer and Capricorn, Arctic and Antarctic Circle, the Prime/Greenwich Meridian and time zones (including day and night)	Maps of the world (Y3)
understand geographical similarities and differences through the study of human and physical geography of a region of the United Kingdom, a region in a European country, and a region within North or South America	Covered throughout all year groups
describe and understand key aspects of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ physical geography, including: climate zones, biomes and vegetation belts, rivers, mountains, volcanoes and earthquakes, and the water cycle 	Landscapes Mountains (Y3) Landscapes Rivers + Erosion and Deposition(Y4) Water cycle link to states of matter (Y4) Earthquakes and volcanoes (Y3) Biomes & climate zones (Y5) Tropical, deciduous and taiga Biomes (Y5) Desert, Savannah and Tundra (Y5) Fresh water, marine and ice biome (Y5) Climate change (Y4)
describe and understand key aspects of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ human geography, including: types of settlement and land use, economic activity including trade links, and the distribution of natural resources including energy, food, minerals and water 	European studies (Y3,4) Americas studies (Y5,6) Biomes (Y5, 6) International trade and transport (Y6) Climate change (Y4)
use maps, atlases, globes and digital/computer mapping to locate countries and describe features studied	Using maps features (Y3, 4, 5, 6)
use the eight points of a compass, four and six-figure grid references, symbols and key (including the use of Ordnance Survey maps) to build their knowledge of the United Kingdom and the wider world	Using four-figure grid references (Y5) Using six-figure grid references (Y6)
use fieldwork to observe, measure, record and present the human and physical features in the local area using a range of methods, including sketch maps, plans and graphs, and digital technologies	Rivers + Mountains (Y3+4)