

Geography Curriculum Overview

The geography projects are well sequenced to provide a coherent subject scheme that develops children's geographical knowledge, skills and subject disciplines.

Geographical locations are not specified in the national curriculum, so they have been chosen to provide a broad and diverse understanding of the world..

Where there are opportunities for making meaningful connections with other projects, geography projects are sequenced accordingly. For example, children revisit the geography of settlements in the history project School Days after studying types of settlements in the geography project Bright Lights, Big City.

All geography projects are taught in the autumn and spring terms, with opportunities for schools to revisit less secure concepts in the summer term.

Key Stage 1

In Key Stage 1, each autumn term begins with essential skills and knowledge projects (Our Wonderful World in Year 1 and Let's Explore the World in Year 2). Teaching these projects in Years 1 and 2 enables children to be introduced to, or revisit, critical geographical concepts, aspects, skills and knowledge. These projects prepare children for the study of more thematic geography projects in the following term.

In the spring term of Year 1, children study the project Bright Lights, Big City. This project introduces children to the geography of urban environments and the physical and human features of the United Kingdom.

In contrast, in the spring term of Year 2, children carry out a detailed study of coastal geography in the project Coastline. This project introduces children to the geography of coastal environments and provides children with the opportunity for in-depth coastal fieldwork.

Lower Key Stage 2

In Lower Key Stage 2, children begin with essential skills and knowledge projects (One Planet, Our World in Year 3 and Interconnected World in Year 4). Teaching these projects in Years 3 and 4 enables children to further develop their skills, knowledge and understanding of key geographical aspects and concepts and prepares them to study more thematic geography projects in the following term.

In the spring term of Year 3, children study the project Rocks, Relics and Rumbles, which explores physical features and geographical phenomena, including earthquakes and volcanoes.

In contrast, in the spring term of Year 4, children carry out a detailed study of the physical features of mountains and rivers, which includes opportunities for in-depth fieldwork.

Upper Key Stage 2

In Upper Key Stage 2, children again begin with essential skills and knowledge projects (Investigating Our World in Year 5 and Our Changing World in Year 6). Teaching these projects in Years 5 and 6 enables children to develop their skills, knowledge and understanding of key geographical aspects and concepts and prepares them to study more thematic geography projects in the following term.

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	AUTUMN	SPRING	SUMMER
YEAR 1	<p style="text-align: center;">Our Wonderful World (Geography)</p> <p>This project teaches children about physical and human features, maps, cardinal compass points, and positional and directional language. They learn about the equator, hemispheres and continents and are introduced to the countries, capital cities and settlements of the United Kingdom. The children carry out simple fieldwork to find out about local physical and human features.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Significant knowledge – Our World</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Big Light, Big City (Geography)</p> <p>This project teaches children about the physical and human characteristics of the United Kingdom, including a detailed exploration of the characteristics and features of the capital city, London.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Significant knowledge – London</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">School Days (History)</p> <p>Within this topic, the geography children learn about how geographical features change over time as well as how pollution affects a local area.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Significant knowledge – Welbourne (Local area)</p>
YEAR 2	<p style="text-align: center;">Let's Explore the World (Geography)</p> <p>This project teaches children about atlases, maps and cardinal compass points. They learn about the characteristics of the four countries of the United Kingdom and find out why there are hot, temperate and cold places around the world. They also compare England to Somalia. Children carry out fieldwork, collecting primary data in their locality to answer geographical questions.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Significant knowledge – England & Somalia</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Coastline (Geography)</p> <p>This project teaches children about the physical and human features of coastal regions across the United Kingdom, including a detailed exploration of the coastal town of Whitby, in Yorkshire.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Significant knowledge - Whitby</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Magnificent Monarchs (History)</p> <p>Within this topic, the geography children learn about the different royal residences, particularly how to locate them on a map.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Significant knowledge – Royal residences</p>
YEAR 3	<p style="text-align: center;">One Planet, Our World (Geography)</p> <p>This project teaches children to locate countries and cities, and use grid references, compass points and latitude and longitude. They learn about the layers of the Earth and plate tectonics and discover the five major climate zones. They learn about significant places in the United Kingdom and carry out fieldwork to discover how land is used in the locality.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Significant knowledge – The Earth</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Rocks, Relics and Rumbles (Geography)</p> <p>This project teaches children about the features and characteristics of Earth's layers, including a detailed exploration of volcanic, tectonic and seismic activity.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Significant knowledge – Volcanoes</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Emperors and Empires (History)</p> <p>Children learn about the history and structure of ancient Rome and the Roman Empire, including a detailed exploration of the Romanisation of Britain.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Significant knowledge – Boudicca</p>
YEAR 4	<p style="text-align: center;">Interconnected World (Geography)</p> <p>This project teaches children about compass points and four and six-figure grid references. They learn about the tropics and the countries, climates and culture of North and South America. Children identify physical features in the United Kingdom and learn about the National Rail and canal networks. They conduct an enquiry to prove a hypothesis, gathering data from maps and surveys before drawing conclusions.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Significant knowledge – Compass references and North & South America</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Misty Mountain, Winding River (Geography)</p> <p>This project teaches children about the characteristics and features of rivers and mountain ranges around the world, including a detailed exploration of the ecosystems and processes that shape them and the land around them.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Significant knowledge – Mountains</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Ancient Civilisations (History)</p> <p>This project teaches children about the characteristics and features of rivers and mountain ranges around the world, including a detailed exploration of the ecosystems and processes that shape them and the land around them.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Significant knowledge – Mountains</p>

	AUTUMN	SPRING	SUMMER
YEAR 5	<p>Investigating Our World (Geography)</p> <p>This project teaches children about locating map features using a range of methods. They learn about the Prime Meridian, Greenwich Mean Time (GMT), and worldwide time zones and study interconnected climate zones, vegetation belts and biomes. Children learn about human geography and capital cities worldwide before looking at the UK motorway network and settlements. They carry out an enquiry to identify local settlement types.</p> <p>Significant knowledge – Climate zones and Vegetation belts</p>	<p>Sow, Grow and Farm (Geography)</p> <p>This project teaches children about the features and characteristics of land use in agricultural regions across the world, including a detailed exploration of significant environmental areas.</p> <p>Significant knowledge – California and Peru</p>	<p>Groundbreaking Greeks (History)</p> <p>Within this topic, the geography children learn how to analyse Greece using different sources to understand the geographical make up of the area.</p> <p>Significant knowledge – Ancient Greece</p>
YEAR 6	<p>Our Changing World (Geography)</p> <p>This project revises the features of Earth, time zones and lines of latitude and longitude to pinpoint places on a map. Children find out more about map scales, grid references, contour lines and map symbols. They learn about climate change and the importance of global trade. Children analyse data and carry out fieldwork to find out about local road safety. They study patterns of human settlements and carry out an enquiry to describe local settlement patterns.</p> <p>Significant knowledge – Features of Earth</p>	<p>Frozen Kingdoms (Geography)</p> <p>This project teaches children about the characteristics and features of polar regions, including the North and South Poles, and includes a detailed exploration of the environmental factors that shape and influence them.</p> <p>Significant knowledge – Artic and Antarctic.</p>	<p>Britain at War (History)</p> <p>Within this topic, the geography children learn about how different parts of the world (and the things and people in it) are interconnected, focusing on the allies and axis.</p> <p>Significant knowledge – Allies and Axis</p>