

Geography Curriculum Overview



EYFS - Reception Adult Led Activities (please see EYFS Continuous Provision Plans for child initiated opportunities)

Unit of work	Human Geography	Geographical Skills and Fieldwork
Link to our context	<p>Children will be invited to share 'All about me' and create our class Friends and Family Board.</p> <p>Children will explore the roles of Vets, Farmers and Zoo Keepers.</p> <p>Children will learn about 'Real Life Superheroes' and People who help us.</p>	<p>Children will explore maps of the local area prior to visiting it. Children will also explore a range of different maps including world, UK, simple London maps and create a map of their journey to school.</p> <p>Children will explore island maps and create their own treasure map.</p>
Essential knowledge	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Children will know people who are important to them and in their immediate family. 2. Children will know that vets, farmers, zoo keepers help to look after animals. 3. Children will know that some occupations help people. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Children will know that a maps have different purposes including showing where we are and where we need to go. 2. Children will be able to follow a simple map of their local / familiar area. 3. Children will know how to create a simple map.
Vocabulary	<p>Family Friends Important Close Animals Care Vets Medicine Look after Police Firefighters Nurses Doctors Safe Superheroes</p>	<p>World Map United Kingdom Country Road Path London Streets Island Water Sea Land.</p>

Year 1			
Unit of work	Weather and Climate	Seasons / Weather Hot places	Where our food comes from
Link to our context	Contrasting climates		Use our school grounds to create maps Local supermarket visit to explore food sources
Prior learning	In EYFS children have created maps and drawn information from different maps	Year 1 Aut – using maps to locate North and South poles	EYFS map making and reading Using maps of different locations including Cheser and London Year 1 Spring – locating countries and capitals of the United Kingdom and surrounding seas, using maps to locate different countries in the world
Essential knowledge	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Know that it is cold at the North and South Pole 2. Know that the equator is an imaginary line that goes around the centre of the Earth 3. Know that it is hotter around the equator 4. Identify physical features using correct geographical vocabulary including: coast, sea, ocean, beach, river, season and weather 5. Identify physical features on a range of maps (coast, sea, ocean, beach, river) 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Know that the United Kingdom is made up of 4 countries – England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland 2. Know the capital cities of the 4 countries of the UK 3. Know and describe the seasonal and daily weather patterns in the United Kingdom 4. Know the location of hot and cold areas of the world in relation to the Equator and the North and South Pole 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Know that there are four countries in the United Kingdom – England, Wales, Scotland, Northern Ireland 2. Know that the capital cities of the United Kingdom are London, Cardiff, Edinburgh and Belfast 3. Know that the four main points of the compass are North, South, East and West 4. Know that maps, atlases and globes can be used to locate countries, continents and oceans
Vocabulary	North Pole, South Pole, climate, equator, physical geography, seas, oceans, beach, river, seasons, weather, coast	weather, seasons, Africa, Antarctica, Equator, North Pole, South Pole	UK, Countries, England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland, North, South, East and West
Quick Quiz	Where are the North and South Pole? Where is the Equator? What is the weather like at each of these? Can you name any rivers near to our locality? Can you find the oceans/seas on the world map?	Can you identify seasonal weather patterns in the UK? Can you name a hot place in the world?	Where was this food grown? Can you find that place on a map? Can you locate the UK on a map? Can you locate other countries and oceans? What are the 4 countries of the UK? Can you find them on a map
Significant individuals	Ann Bancroft	Lucy Martin Owain Wyn Evans	

Year 2

Unit of work	Contrasting localities	UK / World Map Continents and Oceans (Revision linked to history learning)	Our locality – Chester
Link to our context			Visit to the city centre
Prior learning	Year 1 Spring and Summer naming and locating the countries, capital cities and surrounding seas of the UK Hot and cold countries Year 1	Year 1 Spring and Summer naming and locating the countries, capital cities and surrounding seas of the UK	To locate countries and oceans using a map Identifying where the compass points are.
Essential knowledge	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Know that we can use an atlas/ globe to locate the continents 2. Know that we can use an atlas/ globe to locate the oceans on a map/globe 3. Know that there are similarities and differences between locations – England and Canada 4. Name and identify some key physical features are – mountains, cliff, ocean, weather, sea, hill, forest, valley, vegetation 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To know that there four countries in the United Kingdom and to be able to name them and their capital cities and to identify and name its surrounding seas 2. To know that maps, atlases and globes can be used to identify the United Kingdom and its countries 3. To know that maps, atlases and globes can be used to identify countries, continents and oceans studied at this key stage 4. To know that there are 7 continents and what their names are 5. To know that there are 5 major oceans and what their names are 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To know that there are both physical and human geography features in my locality and can describe some of these 2. To know that an area can be represented in different ways – e.g. ariel photo, maps 3. To know some physical features of my locality 4. To know some human features of my locality 5. To know some ways my locality differs from another locality
Vocabulary	continents, oceans, habitats, compare and contrast, physical geography, mountains, cliff, weather, sea, hill, forest, valley, vegetation	UK, England, Scotland, Wales, Northern Ireland, London, Edinburgh, Cardiff, Belfast, Crimea	ariel photographs, maps, locational language, fieldwork, soil, vegetation, town, factory, farm, house, office, shop, river, parkland, compass points
Quick Quiz	Where do snowy owls live? Can you find these places on a map? Can you use a key to mark places on the map? How is Canada different to England?	Where is London? Can you find it on the map? What country is it in? What countries / seas are near it? Where is Crimea? Can you find it on the map? What countries / seas are near it? Compare new and old maps of London identify changes. What oceans do you know? Where are they? What continents can you name? Can you find them on a map?	Can you find Chester on the map? How does an aerial map differ to a drawn map? Can you find 'landmark' on the map? Can you identify the compass points?
Significant individuals	Sir David Attenborough		

Year 3

Unit of work	Mountains and Rivers	Hemispheres World maps	Egypt
Link to our context	Features of the River Dee and local mountain areas (North Wales) Visit to the River Dee Map of our route to the river from school		Compare the River Nile to the River Dee?
Prior learning	Year 2 Spring – Naming continents and oceans	Year 2 Spring – Naming continents and oceans	Year 3 Autumn to describe features of rivers
Essential knowledge	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> To know the name and location of major cities in the UK - London, Edinburgh, Belfast, Cardiff, Birmingham, Newcastle, Liverpool, Manchester, Bristol and Chester To know the names and locations of the major rivers (River Dee, River Thames, River Severn) To know the name and locations of mountains (Ben Nevis, Snowdon (Yr Wyddfa) and Scarfell Pike) in the UK. To know that there are 4 stages to the water cycle (evaporation, condensation, precipitation) To know the physical geographical features (rivers, mountains, water cycle) and human geographical features (settlements -cities) 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> To know, locate and describe the location of the Northern Hemisphere, Southern Hemisphere, Arctic and Antarctic Circle. To use maps, atlases, globes and digital/computer mapping to locate countries and describe features studied. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> To know that there are both physical and human geography features in my locality and can describe some of these To know that an area can be represented in different ways – e.g. ariel photo, maps To know and describe some physical features of my locality To know and describe some human features of my locality To know that there are similarities and differences with another locality and mine
Vocabulary	UK, England, Scotland, Wales, Northern Ireland, human geography, physical geography, mountains, coast, rivers, land use, River vocab – source, mouth, delta, tributary, estuary, floodplains, levee, waterfall, meander, oxbow lake, main channel, water cycle, precipitation, condensation, evaporation	Northern hemisphere, Southern hemisphere, Arctic, Antarctic Circle.	ariel photographs, maps, locational language, fieldwork, soil, vegetation, town, factory, farm, house, office, shop, river, parkland, compass points
Quick Quiz	What do you know about the River Dee? What other rivers are there in the UK? What do you know about them? What can you tell me about mountains of the UK? What is the water cycle? What is the mouth of a river? What is its source?	Can you identify the Northern and Southern Hemispheres? What do you know about the North and South Poles? How are they similar? How are they different?	Where is Egypt? What is the climate like? Why was the River Nile so important? What features of a river can you see on the map of the Nile? What was traded on the Nile? What were the benefits / risks of living near the Nile?
Significant individuals	Junko Tabei		

Year 4

Unit of work	Africa – human and physical geography	Volcanoes and Earthquakes	Rainforests
Link to our context	Castles –human features, locality.		
Prior learning	Year 2 Spring Naming continents and oceans Year 3 Summer – human and physical geography of the River Nile	Year 3 Autumn – Mountains and Rivers	Year 4 Autumn human and physical geography looking at biomes of Africa
Essential knowledge	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Know what a biome is (A biome is a community of plants and animals that have common characteristics for the environment they exist in) Aquatic/grassland/forest/desert/tundra 2. Name a gorilla’s habitat using geographical language (mountains, rainforests) 3. Name physical geographical features of Africa (mountains, climate zones, different biomes, rivers) 4. Name some human geographical features of Africa (settlements/land use/ trade links) 5. Know that Africa has many different biomes. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Know that earthquakes are caused when the earth’s tectonic plates suddenly move. 2. Know most earthquakes occur near the tectonic plate boundaries. 3. Know that earthquakes can cause lots of damage to roads, buildings and property 4. Know that volcanoes are made when pressure builds up inside the earth. This affects the earth’s crust causing magma to sometimes erupt through it. 5. Know the difference between active, dormant and extinct volcanoes 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Know that a biome is a community of plants and animals that have common characteristics for the environment they exist in 2. Know that the forest floor, understory, canopy and emergent layers are all layers of a rainforest. 3. Know that rainforests cover approximately 6% of the Earth’s land surface but contains more than ½ the world’s plants. 4. Know that rainforests provide medicine, food, habitats for people and animals and oxygen 5. Know that rainforests are disappearing due to deforestation. Trees are being chopped down so there are large areas which can be farmed, for wood, to build roads and to dig for oil.
Vocabulary	Physical geography, human geography, topographical features, hills, mountains, coasts, rivers	earthquake, volcanoes, Ring of Fire, physical geography	biomes, climate, vegetation belt, rainforest, physical geography
Quick Quiz	What is a biome? Can you describe different biomes? Where do gorillas live? Can you locate these on a map?	Name some volcanoes and major earthquakes Describe the effects of earthquakes Describe the effects of volcanic eruptions Give some reasons why people choose to live in earthquakes zones and close to active volcanoes What is the ‘Pacific Ring of Fire’? (link to plate tectonics) What is the difference between a dormant and an extinct volcano? What is a fault line? What is the epicentre of an earthquake? Explain what the Richter scale is.	Can you describe different biomes and climates? Compare a rainforest to a desert, giving at least three differences.
Significant individuals	Wangari Maathai		

Year 5

Unit of work	North and South America Time zones	Map skills European Countries (link to History topic)	South America – (History link – Mayans)
Link to our context			
Prior learning	Year 4 Autumn – human and physical geography of Africa	Year 4 using maps to explore human and physical geography of an area	Year 5 Autumn – North and South America
Essential knowledge	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Know and name some countries in North and South America. 2. Know correct geographical language to describe human and physical features and land use (settlements, road links, farming, mountains, rivers) 3. Know where the lines of latitude and longitude are, where the equator is and where the tropics of Cancer and Capricorn are. 4. Know that there are and locate the Northern and Southern hemispheres 5. Know there are different time zones and that Washington DC is 5 hours behind London time. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That the Vikings invaded from Scandinavia and locate this on a map as well as where they landed (England, Scotland, Ireland, France, Spain, Italy, Iceland, and Russia) 2. To compare a region in a country that the Vikings invaded with a region in England identifying and comparing physical and human geographical features of these 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Know that The Americas are divided into North, South and Central America 2. Be able to identify at least 3 countries in Central America 3. Know that the Mayans settled where they did because there were plenty of fertile valleys for growing crops
Vocabulary	human features, physical features, latitude, longitude, equator, hemispheres, tropics of Cancer and Capricorn, time zones, North America	Continents, Europe, human geography, physical geography, landscape, climate, land use	Central America, physical geography, human geography, environmental regions
Quick Quiz	Can you locate 'name of country'? Using the index locate 'name of country' What is the northern/southern hemisphere? What is the land usage? Why do we have timezones?	Which countries and cities did the Vikings raid? Can you plot these on a map? Can you compare a European country to UK?	Can you locate the countries where the Mayans lived? Can you explain why the Mayans settled where they did?
Significant individuals	Christopher Columbus		

Year 6

Unit of work	Ordnance survey maps and grid references	Breaking down barriers Galapagos Islands	Pollution – effects on the ocean
Link to our context			
Prior learning	Year 1 Summer - Compass work – 4 points of the compass	Year 5 Autumn – North and South Americas	Year 4 and 5 learning on human geography – land usage
Essential knowledge	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Know some topographical features of an area (mountains, hills, coast, rivers). Topography is the study of the forms and features of land surfaces. The topography of an area may refer to the land forms and features themselves, or the science of mapping those features. 2. To know that we can use 4 figure grid references to locate features on an OS map. 3. To know that we can use 6 digit grid references to locate features on an OS map. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To know and locate on maps the places that Charles Darwin explored 2. To know that the Galapagos islands are located in the Pacific Ocean, 973 km (605 miles) off the west coast of the continent South America 3. The islands are famous for having many native animals, including giant tortoises, that are found nowhere else on Earth. 4. To identify and describe the physical features of the Galapagos Islands - volcanoes, earthquakes, climate zones 5. To compare human and physical geographical features of the Galapagos Islands with those of Chester 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To know and be able to name at least one example of human geography – transport links/ pollution/ buildings/towns 2. Know reasons why people settle where they do- transport links/jobs/ communities/family/affordability 3. Know that pollution is ‘the introduction of harmful materials into the environment’. 4. To know and be able to name types of pollution – travel emissions/ waste (including plastics) in the seas 5. Know that many living things are dying because rubbish (including plastics) end up in our oceans. 6. Know that we can do something to help – recycle/reuse/ educate others/ campaign
Vocabulary	OS Maps, 4 figure grid reference, 6 figure grid reference	Seasons, marine, volcano, vegetation, terrestrial, naturalist, adaption, Ecuador, evolution, biodiversity, eco system, Galapagos	Land use, human geography, pollution
Quick Quiz	What can you see on the map? Where is the key? Find the four / six-figure grid reference for ‘name of a city or town’ Explain why people might use six-figure grid references rather than 2- or 4-figure grid references	Can I identify the key features of Chester? Can you describe the features of a landscape using geographical language?	Can you identify pollution in the ocean? Can you identify ways in which we can help save the ocean? What causes pollution? What different types of pollution are there? What can be done to reduce pollution?
Significant individuals		Charles Darwin	Greta Thunberg