

Geography Curriculum Overview 2025-2026

Year 1/2

What is it like here?

Locating where they live on an aerial photograph and identifying local features. Creating maps using classroom objects and drawing simple maps of the school grounds. Use maps to follow simple routes around the school grounds and carrying out an enquiry about how to improve their playground.

What is the weather like in the UK?

Studying the countries and cities that make up the UK and learning about the seasons and their associated weather. Considering how we change our behaviour in response to different weather and keeping a weather diary or record. Investigating the UK's hot and cold places using weather maps with a simple key.

What is it like to live by the coast?

Naming and locating continents and oceans of the world in an atlas and revising the countries, cities and surrounding seas of the UK. Learning about the physical features of the Jurassic Coast and how humans have interacted with this over time, including land use, settlements and tourism.

Year 3/4

Why do people live near volcanoes?

Learning how the Earth is constructed and about tectonic plates and their boundaries. Looking at how mountains are formed, explaining the formation and types of volcanoes and the cause of earthquakes. Mapping the global distribution of mountains, volcanoes and earthquakes and giving consideration to the negative and positive effects of living in a volcanic environment and the ways in which humans have responded to earthquakes.

Why are rainforests important to us?

Focussing on the link between biomes and climate, locating the Amazon rainforest and explaining how the vegetation in a tropical rainforest is defined by the two Tropics. Investigating the physical features and layers of the Amazon rainforest, considering how plants adapt to these conditions. Learning about the people who live in the rainforest, discussing the impact of human activity locally and globally

Where does our food come from?

Looking at the distribution of the world's biomes and mapping food imports from around the world, learning about trading fairly with a specific focus on Côte d'Ivoire and cocoa beans. Exploring where the food for school dinners comes from and the pros and cons of local versus global.

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Year 5

What is life like in the Alps?

Discovering the climate of mountain ranges and considering why people choose to visit the Alps, focussing on Innsbruck and identifying the human and physical features that attract tourists. Then applying this learning to investigate tourism in the local area, mapping recreational land use and presenting their findings.

Would you like to live in a desert?

Recapping biomes with focus on hot desert biomes and their various characteristics, mapping the largest global deserts. The Mojave Desert is used as a case study to support learning about the physical features of a desert. Exploring how humans use deserts and the environmental threats that can occur in this landscape

Why do oceans matter?

Exploring the significance of our oceans, learning how humans use and impact them and how this has changed over time. Studying the Great Barrier Reef and how plastic and pollution is damaging this marine environment, and considering positive environmental changes that can be made including making eco-friendly choices. Using fieldwork skills to investigate the amount and type of litter in a marine environment.

Year 6

Where does our energy come from?

Learning about time zones around the world while exploring natural resources and energy found in the United States and the United Kingdom. Learning about renewable and non-renewable energy sources and the impacts these have on society, economy and environment. Carrying out a fieldwork investigation, looking into the best location for a solar panel on the school grounds.

Can I carry out an independent fieldwork enquiry?

Planning and carrying out an independent enquiry, exploring an issue in the local area. Developing an enquiry question, designing data collection methods, and recording, analysing and presenting the findings.

Why does population change?

Looking at global population distribution, thinking about why certain areas are more populated than others. Exploring the factors that influence birth and death rates and using case studies to illustrate these. Exploring the social, economic and environmental push and pull factors that influence migration. Fieldwork is carried out to explore the impact of population on the local environment.