



Skills Progression Map: Geography

	Nursery	Reception	Year 1	Year 2
Location	Explore features of our school, our Nursery and the local area. Talk about the different countries experienced or seen in photos. Read stories from other cultures and countries and start to understand where these are in the world.	Recognise some similarities and differences between life in this country and life in other countries. Explore the natural world around them. Talk about other countries from personal experiences (where appropriate/ applicable). Read stories from other cultures and countries and start to understand where these are in the world using world maps.	Name and locate the four countries of the UK and their capital cities on a map, atlas or globe. Name and locate the world's seven continents and five oceans on a world map. Locate hot and cold areas of the world in relation to the equator.	Identify characteristics (such as size, landscape, capital city, language, currency and key landmarks) of the four countries and major cities of the UK. Name and locate seas surrounding the UK, as well as seas, around the world on a world map or globe. Locate the equator and the North and South Poles on a world map or globe.
Place	Talk about similarities and differences between their own community and others.	Recognise some similarities and differences between life in this country and life in other countries. Talk about the features of their own immediate environment and how environments might vary from one another.	Begin to compare places in the UK with a place outside of the UK. Observe similarities and differences to places as well as people.	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 of Africa.
Human Geography	Talk about the lives of people in the community and the roles they play in society.	Understand that some places are special to members of the local community.	Name and describe the purpose of human features and landmarks. Identify the characteristics of a settlement.	Use geographical vocabulary to describe how and why people use a range of human features. Describe the size, location and function of a local industry.
Physical Geography	Understand that there are different seasons and be able to talk about some of the features of them.	Understand the effect of changing seasons on the natural world around them.	Identify patterns in daily and seasonal weather. Use basic geographical vocabulary to identify and describe physical features, such as beach, cliff, coast, forest, hill, mountain, sea, ocean, river, soil, valley and vegetation.	Describe simple weather patterns of hot and cold places. Describe the size, location and position of a physical feature, such as beach, cliff, coast, forest, hill, mountain, sea, ocean, river, soil, valley and vegetation. Describe, in simple terms, the effects of erosion.
Geographical Skills	Use a floor robot to plan and follow directions using some modelled language. Make simple maps relating to topics and stories.	Describe a familiar route using modelled language. Be able to draw information from a simple map. Look at photographs of different parts of the world and start to suggest how it is similar or different to our country.	Use simple directional and positional language to give directions, describe the location of features and discuss where things are in relation to each other. Draw or read a simple picture map. Identify features and landmarks on an aerial photograph or plan perspective.	Use simple compass directions to describe the location of features or a route on a map. Draw or read a range of simple maps that use symbols and a key. Study aerial photographs to describe the features and characteristics of an area of land.
Fieldwork and Data Analysis		Explore the natural world, making observations and drawing pictures of animals and plants.	Carry out fieldwork tasks to identify characteristics of the school grounds or locality. Collect simple data during fieldwork activities.	Ask and answer simple geographical questions through observation or simple data collection during fieldwork activities. Collect and organise simple data in charts and tables from primary sources (fieldwork and observation) and secondary sources (maps and books).

	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Location	Name, locate and describe some major counties and cities in the UK. Locate countries and major cities in Europe (including Russia) on a world map. Locate significant places using latitude and longitude.	Create a detailed study of geographical features including hills, mountains, coasts and rivers of the UK. Identify the topography of an area of the UK using contour lines on a map. Locate the countries and major cities of North, Central and South America on a world map, atlas or globe. Identify the location of the Tropics of Cancer and Capricorn on a world map.	Describe the relative location of cities, counties or geographical features in the UK in relation to other places or geographical features. Name, locate and describe major world cities. Identify the location and explain the function of the Prime (or Greenwich) Meridian and different time zones (including day and night).	Describe patterns of human population growth and movement, economic activities, space, land use and human settlement patterns of an area of the UK. Identify the position and explain the significance of latitude, longitude, equator, Northern Hemisphere, Southern Hemisphere, the Tropics of Cancer and Capricorn, the Arctic and Antarctic Circles, the Prime (or Greenwich) Meridian and time zones (including day and night).
Place	Understand geographical similarities and differences through the study of human and physical geography of a region of the UK and region of mainland Europe (Italy).	Understand geographical similarities and differences through the study of human and physical geography of a region of the United Kingdom and a region within North America	Understand geographical similarities and differences through the study of human and physical geography of a region of the United Kingdom, a region within South America.	Understand geographical similarities and differences through the study of human and physical geography of a region of the United Kingdom and Antarctica.
Human Geography	Describe the type and purpose of different buildings, monuments, services and land, and identify reasons for their location. Describe the type and characteristics of settlement or land use in an area or region.	Describe a range of human features and their location and explain how they are interconnected. Explain ways that water systems are used in different parts of the world.	Describe in detail the different types of agricultural land use in the UK. Understand the purpose of trade links across the world.	Explain how humans function when living in places with extreme weather. Describe the distribution of natural resources in an area or country.
Physical Geography	Describe the parts of a volcano or earthquake. Name and describe properties of the Earth's four layers. Explain the physical processes that cause earthquakes and volcanic eruptions.	Explain climatic variations of a country or continent. Identify, describe and explain the formation of different mountain types. Use specific geographical vocabulary and diagrams to explain the water cycle.	Explain how the climate affects land use. Identify and describe some key physical features and environmental regions of North and South America and explain how these, along with the climate zones and soil types, can affect land use. Describe how soil fertility, drainage and climate affect agricultural land use.	Evaluate the extent to which climate and extreme weather affect how people live. Compare and describe physical features of polar landscapes. Describe the physical processes, including weather, that affect two different locations.
Geographical Skills	Use the eight points of a compass to locate a geographical feature or place on a map. Use four-figure grid references to describe the location of objects and places on a simple map. Analyse maps, atlases and globes, including digital mapping, to locate countries and describe features studied.	Use the eight points of a compass, four and six-figure grid references, symbols and a key to locate and plot geographical places and features on a map. Use four or six-figure grid references and keys to describe the location of objects and places on a map. Study and draw conclusions about places and geographical features using a range of geographical resources, including maps, atlases, globes and digital mapping.	Use compass points and grid references to interpret maps, including Ordnance Survey maps, with accuracy. Identify elevated areas, and depressions on a relief map. Analyse and compare a place, or places, using aerial photographs. atlases and maps.	Use lines of longitude and latitude or grid references to find the position of different geographical areas and features. Use grid references, lines of latitude and longitude, contour lines and symbols in maps and on globes to understand and record the geography of an area. Use satellite imaging and maps of different scales to find out geographical information about a place.
Fieldwork and Data Analysis	Gather evidence to answer a geographical question or enquiry.	Collect and analyse primary and secondary data, identifying and analysing patterns and suggesting reasons for them.	Construct or carry out a geographical enquiry by gathering and analysing a range of sources. Summarise geographical data to draw conclusions.	Ask and answer geographical questions and hypotheses using a range of fieldwork and research techniques. Analyse and present increasingly complex data, comparing data from different sources and suggesting why data may vary.