



Geography National Curriculum Overview



	Autumn	Spring	Summer
Nursery	<p>In EYFS (Nursery and Reception), geographical learning is woven into everyday experiences. Children begin by exploring their immediate surroundings and building a basic language of place, scale, and human-nature interconnections. This foundation develops through play-based activities, storytelling, and hands-on exploration. They learn to describe where they live, recognise local features, and appreciate the natural world through simple maps, observational skills, and everyday vocabulary.</p> <p>In Nursery, geographical aspects are integrated into the EYFS curriculum under the umbrella of “Discovering Our World.” Children explore their homes, neighbourhoods, and natural surroundings through playful activities that blend learning about place, people, and the environment.</p> <p>Key Knowledge:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understand that their home and immediate surroundings are special places that make up their world. • Learn basic geographical terms such as “here,” “there,” “near,” and “far.” • Identify familiar features in their environment (e.g., houses, gardens, parks) and recognise simple differences between indoor and outdoor spaces. • Begin to recognise that people have different jobs around the community and that these roles help shape the places they live. • Notice a variety of natural features—even at a basic level—such as different types of plants, animals, and weather conditions. <p>Key Geographical Skills:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use simple drawings or maps to represent their home and nearby spaces. • Begin to use directional language and understand spatial relationships (e.g., up/down, near/far). • Observe and describe features of their surroundings using visual aids and guided exploration. 		
Reception	<p>In Reception, children build on their early geographical awareness by relating their immediate world to broader contexts. They explore their town within the wider world, deepening their understanding of physical and human environments.</p> <p>Key Knowledge:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recognise their city (e.g., Newcastle) by finding it on simple maps and globes, and learn basic geographical vocabulary such as “city,” “town,” “country,” and “world.” • Understand that the Earth is made up of both land and water and learn the names of continents and oceans at a very basic level. • Observe how environments can be both natural and human-made, noting features like parks, rivers, and local landmarks. • Begin to notice ways in which human care and actions affect the environment in simple, everyday contexts. • Develop an early awareness of weather and natural features that make each place unique. <p>Key Geographical Skills:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use simple maps and globes to locate Newcastle and compare it with other areas. • Employ basic compass points (north, south, east, west) to improve orientation skills. • Engage in activities that involve matching images to places and describing similarities and differences in their environment. 		
Year 1	Let's be geographers! <i>(place, location & scale)</i>	Frozen planet <i>Interconnections</i>	Our local park <i>Human impact and effect</i>
Year 2	Climate <i>Interconnections</i>	My region & Rajasthan <i>Place, location & scale</i>	Weather around the world <i>Interconnections</i>
Year 3	Extraordinary Earth <i>interconnections</i>	Rainforests <i>Place, location & scale</i>	Changing job <i>interconnections</i>
Year 4	My region & Campagna <i>Place, location & scale</i>	Resources and Trade <i>Interconnections</i>	Land use <i>human impact & effect</i>



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Year 5	My region & Brazil Place, location & scale	Rivers Human impact & effect	What are biomes? Interconnections
Year 6	The economic activity of the UK Interconnections		Local study of the Ouseburn – physical and human features – Place, location & scale Human impact & effect

Locational knowledge

· 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

· use the 8 points of a compass, 4- and 6-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