




Birch Copse Primary School – Knowledge Organiser

Geography Topic:	Our Local Area	Year 1	Autumn
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Key Knowledge	
local area	Tilehurst
local town	Reading
Our county	Berkshire
Where?	Tilehurst is on a hill
Why is it called Tilehurst?	‘Tile’ – because tiles were made here ‘Hurst’ – means ‘wooded hill ’
What is near Tilehurst?	
Sulham Woods is to the West	The River Kennet and the M4 motorway is to the South
Reading town is to the East	The River Thames is to the North
Local landmarks	
Tilehurst Triangle	Arthur Newbury Park
Tilehurst Railway Station	St Catherine’s Church
Tilehurst Library	The Water Tower
The War Memorial	
	

Key Vocabulary	
Town	A place where people live that is smaller than a city but bigger than a village.
County	All the land in the UK is split into 100 large areas called counties.
Railway Station	A place on a railway line where the train can stop to allow passengers on and off
Local	The nearby area
Map	A plan of a place from above
Symbol	Picture on a map to show a feature
Key (on a map)	Explains what each symbol means
Compass points	A way of explaining the direction of something
North, South, East, West	The four main compass points
Woods	Land covered in trees – smaller than a forest
Valley	A low area of land between hills – usually with a river flowing through it
Water tower	A tank that collects rainwater. It is high up so the water can flow down into pipes
Hill	A raised area of land – not as high as a mountain
River	A large flow of water crossing the land. Flows into a sea, lake or other river
Church	A building where Christians worship
Library	A building where books are kept that we can borrow
Park	An area of land used for relaxing and playing
Motorway	A large road with lots of lanes where cars can drive faster

Real-Life Outcomes	Key Skills
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Draw a map with a key of the school grounds (including field, trees, buildings, wildlife area) • Draw a map with a key of the local area • “Design the ultimate school.” <p>Children to draw a map of the ultimate school using what they have learned</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Locate places on a map • Use simple compass directions • Devise a simple map • Use and create basic symbols in a key