



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

Birch Copse Primary School – Knowledge Organiser

Geography Topic:	The U.K.	Year 1	Spring
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Key Knowledge		
We live in the United Kingdom (U.K.)		
The U.K. has four smaller countries in it:		
England	Wales	
Scotland	Northern Ireland	
Each country has its own capital city and flag		
Country	Capital city	Flag
England	London	
Wales	Cardiff	
Scotland	Edinburgh	
N. Ireland	Belfast	
The United Kingdom is surrounded by seas on all sides:		
South	English Channel	
East	North Sea	
West	Irish Sea	
North	Atlantic Ocean	
		

Key features/ landmarks	
Human Features	
England	Windsor Castle
Scotland	Edinburgh Castle
Wales	Caernarfon Castle
N.Ireland	Carrickfergus Castle
England	The London Eye
England	Angel of the North
Physical Features	
Scotland	John O’Groats
England	Land’s End
Scotland	Ben Nevis mountain
England	Lake Windermere
Scotland	Loch Ness
England	Sherwood Forest
Wales	Mount Snowdon
N. Ireland	Giant’s Causeway
Key Vocabulary	
Sea	Big areas of water next to land
Ocean	Huge area of water. There are 5 Oceans in the world
Island	An area of land completely surrounded by water
Country	An area of land. There are 195 countries in the world
Capital city	The main city of the country (where the Government is)
Flag	A rectangle design used as a sign of a country
Castle	A large building with high walls. Often built for kings & queens.
Forest	A large area where trees grow
Lake/ Loch	A large area of water (called ‘ Loch ’ in Scotland)
Mount/ Mountain	A very high hill with steep sides

Real-Life Outcomes	Key Skills
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Design a new flag for the U.K. using ideas from some of the features learned about 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> locate these features in an Atlas Use compass directions to describe locations (e.g. of the seas and countries)

Birch Copse Primary School – Knowledge Organiser

Geography Topic:	The seaside	Year 1	Summer
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Weymouth	
Where?	A town on the South coast of England
Population	71,000
How old	Weymouth is about 800 years old
Average temperature	Cold in winter, warm in summer



Physical features	
Water	On the English Channel.
	The water is very cold in winter but warm enough to swim in the summer
	The sea is very calm here so is great for swimming
Beach	Weymouth beach is 3 miles long.
	The sand is golden yellow.
	It is very shallow so really safe to swim in
Nearby	The Jurassic coast has lots of beautiful cliffs
Human features	
Seafront	Lots of old Georgian houses
Harbour	Weymouth Harbour has 450 boats
Landmark	Queen Victoria's Jubilee Clock



Gold Coast	
Where?	A city on the East coast of Australia
Population	570,000
How old	Gold Coast is about 100 years old
Average temperature	Hot in winter, warm in the summer



Physical features	
Water	On the Pacific Ocean.
	The water is really warm in the winter and a bit cooler in the summer
	The sea can be make huge waves so is great for surfing
Beach	There are 43 miles of beaches in Gold Coast
	One is called Surfer's Paradise Beach.
	There are some calmer swimming areas and some better for surfing
Nearby	The coast is flat with lots of sandy beaches
Human features	
Seafront	Lots of high-rise flats
Landmark	Q1 building – tallest building in Australia

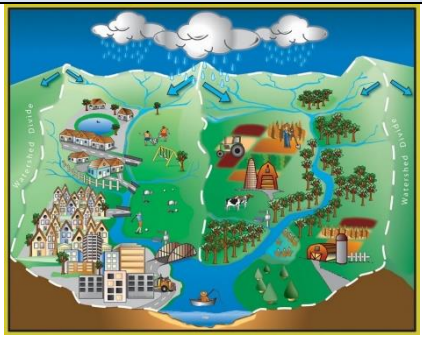


Real-Life Outcomes	Key Skills
"Let's go on Holiday" Plan a holiday to either location including reference to what they have learned	Use world maps and globes to identify the United Kingdom and Weymouth, as well as Australia and Gold Coast

Birch Copse Primary School – Knowledge Organiser

Geography Topic:	River comparison	Year 2	Autumn
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The River Thames	
Country	England
Length	215 miles (2 nd longest in the UK)
River Basin	5000 square miles
Source	'Thames Head' near Cirencester
Mouth	Thames Estuary. It flows into the North Sea
Main towns and cities	Oxford, Reading, Henley, Windsor, London
Main uses	Transportation, rowing, sailing, fishing
Famous for...	Thames Barrier, Swans, punting in Oxford, Henley Regatta, The Boat Race
Bridges	Over 200 including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tower Bridge • Millenium Bridge • Reading Bridge • Caversham Bridge • Whitchurch Bridge
The Amazon River	
Countries	Brazil, Peru, Columbia
Length	3,976 miles (2 nd longest in the world)
River Basin	2,720,000 square miles (biggest in the world by far)
Source	The Andes Mountains, Peru
Mouth	Brazil into the Atlantic Ocean
Main towns and cities	Iquitos, Peru. Manaus, Brazil
Main uses	Transporting materials
Famous for...	The Amazon Rainforest. Over 1,100 tributaries. Over 5000 types of fish live here (including Piranhas)
Bridges	None!



Key Knowledge	
What is a river?	A flowing body of water traveling from high ground to low
Where does the water go?	Rivers usually flow into an ocean , a sea , a lake or another river (see tributary)
Where does the water come from?	From the rain. When rain hits the ground it flows down to the river (see watershed and river basin)
Key Vocabulary	
Watershed	 <p>Usually the top of a hill or ridge where rainwater will either flow one way down the hill into a river or the other side into a different river.</p>
Stream	A small river
Tributary	A smaller river joining on to a larger river
Valley	Low land between hills or mountains
Spring	A place where underground water comes to the surface
Ocean	Huge area of water – there are 5 Oceans
Sea	Big areas of water next to land – there are 85 seas in the world
Lake	A large area of water surrounded by land
Mouth	The end of a river where it meets an ocean , sea , lake or a bigger river.
Source	The start of a river – usually from high in the hills or mountains or from a underground spring

Real-Life Outcomes	Key Skills
<p>"River day Trip"</p> <p>Create a leaflet advertising a day trip either on the River Thames or the Amazon River (including geographical human and physical features learned in the unit)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Locate the rivers and some features on an atlas and a globe • Identify features from aerial photographs • Label a map with a key features of the rivers



Birch Copse Primary School – Knowledge Organiser

Geography Topic:	London	Year 2	Spring
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Key Knowledge	
What I already know:	
We live in the U.K. It is made up of England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland	
Each of these countries has its own capital :	
England	London
Scotland	Edinburgh
Wales	Cardiff
N. Ireland	Belfast
London	
Population	8 million (Largest in the UK)
Location	On the River Thames
Transport	
Railway stations	Paddington, Kings Cross, Waterloo
Motorway	The M25 circles London
There are 33 bridges crossing the River Thames in London	Millennium Bridge
	London Bridge
	Tower Bridge
London Underground	11 lines and 270 stations
Red Buses	Over 8000 buses
Hackney Cabs	21,000 black cabs
	

Famous Landmarks	
Buckingham Palace	One of the Queen's palaces
Houses of Parliament	Where the Government meet. Big Ben is the bell in the Clock tower
Tower of London	A historic castle built from 1078
The Shard	Tallest Skyscraper in the U.K.
St Paul's Cathedral	Re-built after the Great Fire
The Monument	Built to remember the Great Fire
The Gherkin	A Skyscraper built in 2003
Tate Modern	An Art Gallery
The Globe Theatre	Shakespeare's theatre
City Hall	The Mayor of London works here
HMS Belfast	A Museum ship in the Thames
Golden Hinde	The first ship to travel around the world from 1577 - 1580.
Key Vocabulary	
Population	The number of people living somewhere
Motorway	A big road with 3 lanes for cars
Bridge	A structure built over the river
Cab	A taxi
Underground	Trains running travelling the ground
Station	Where trains stop so people can get on
Skyscraper	A really tall building (over 150 metres)
Gallery	A building where you can see art
Theatre	A building where plays are performed

Real-Life Outcomes	Key Skills
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Write a Fact-file about a Famous London Landmark 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Locate these features on a map, using aerial photographs and on a computer mapping programme Use simple compass directions (N,S,E,W)



Birch Copse Primary School – Knowledge Organiser

Geography Topic:

World and Weather

Year 2

Summer

Key Knowledge

What I already know

We live in **the U.K.** It is made up of **England, Scotland, Wales** and **Northern Ireland**

The U.K. is surrounded by the English Channel, North Sea, Irish Sea and Atlantic Ocean

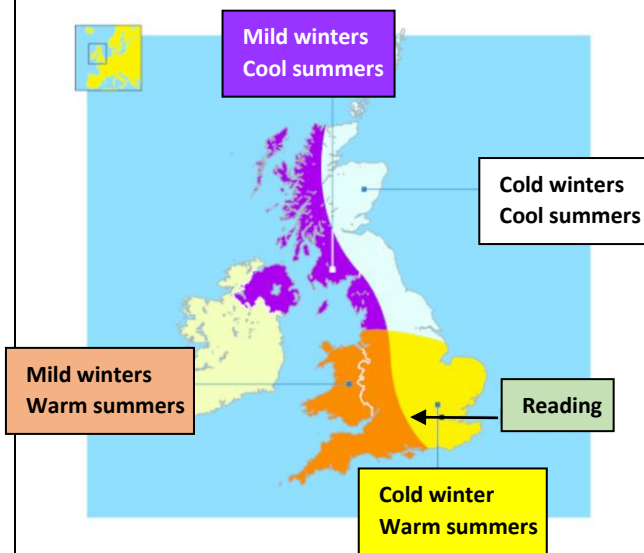
About the four seasons in the U.K. from Year 1 Science.

The U.K. Climate

The U.K. has a **temperate** climate

In winter, it is cold in the East and mild in the West







In summer, it is warm in the South and cool in the North



The U.K. Weather

The **weather** in the U.K. changes each day.

Meteorologists are scientists who **forecast** the weather. Here is some of the different **weather** types they might **forecast**.

	Sunny		Heavy rain
	Cloudy		Snow
	Light rain		Lightning

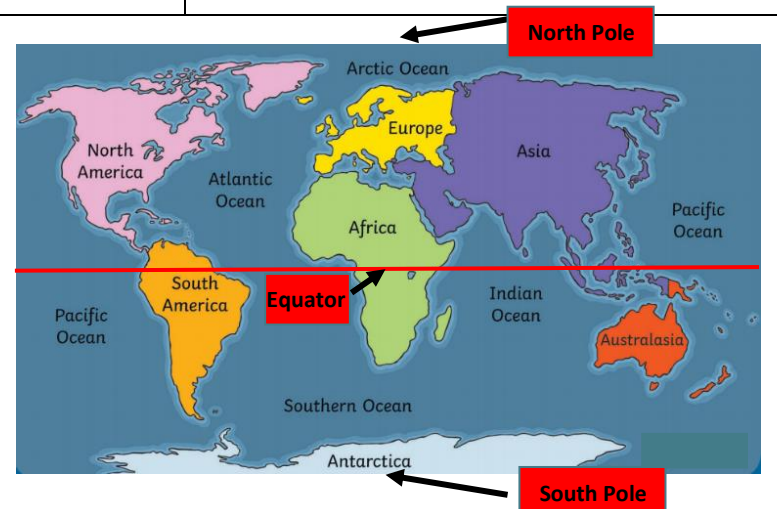
World Climate

7 continents

Africa, Europe, Asia, North America, South America, Australia, Antarctica

5 oceans

Pacific, Atlantic, Indian, southern, Arctic



Countries closer to the **equator** have a hotter **climate**

Countries closer to the **north and south poles** have a colder climate

Key Vocabulary

Continent	A large collection of countries next to each other.
Ocean	Huge area of water. There are 5 Oceans in the world
Sea	Big areas of water next to land
Weather	How hot, cold, wet and windy it is outside
Climate	The normal weather conditions in an area over a long period of time
Forecast	Using science to predict the future weather
Temperate climate	Temperate means moderate so temperate climates
Equator	An imaginary line around the middle of the earth. Countries near the equator are very hot
North Pole	The area at the top of the world furthest from the equator. It is very cold.
South Pole	The area at the bottom of the world furthest from the equator. It is very cold.

Real-Life Outcomes

"Weather Reporter"

Produce a weather report for one of the four seasons for different areas of the U.K. using the knowledge they have learned.

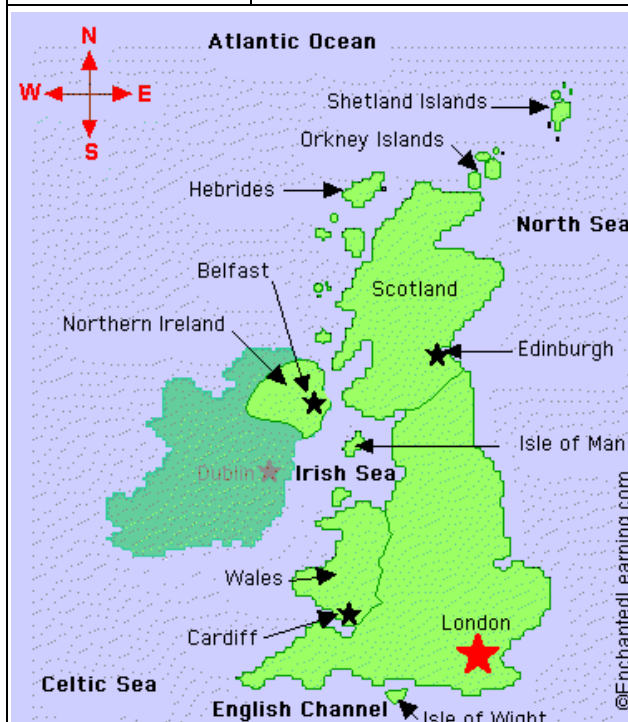
Key Skills

- Use world maps and a globe to locate the continents and oceans
- Use atlases and maps to identify the United Kingdom

Birch Copse Primary School – Knowledge Organiser

Geography Topic:	The United Kingdom	Year 3	Autumn
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Key Knowledge/ Vocabulary	
Where do we live?	
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (U.K.).	The name of our country . It is made up of four smaller countries – England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland .
England	Also the country we live in.
Great Britain	The Island we live on – it includes the countries England, Wales and Scotland .
Ireland	An Island , West of Great Britain . It is split into Northern Ireland and The Republic of Ireland
The British Isles	A collective name for Great Britain, Ireland and all the islands close by including the Isle of Wight, Isle of Man, Shetland Islands, Jersey and Guernsey.



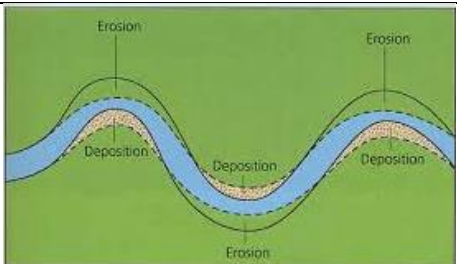
Key Knowledge	
Counties	The UK is split into 100 counties. There are 48 in England.
Our County	Reading is in the county of Berkshire . Berkshire is surrounded by the counties of: Hampshire, Surrey, Buckinghamshire, Oxfordshire and Wiltshire
Capital cities	The four countries that make up the UK all have a capital city: England – London Scotland – Edinburgh Wales – Cardiff Northern Ireland - Belfast
Other large Cities	Birmingham, Leeds, Glasgow, Manchester and Liverpool
Highest mountains in each country	Scotland - Ben Nevis (1,344m) Wales – Snowdon (1,085m) England – Scafell Pike (978m) N. Ireland - Slieve Donard (850m)
Longest rivers	River Severn (220 miles) River Thames (215 miles) River Trent (185 miles)
Seas	South – English Channel East – North Sea West – Irish Sea and Atlantic Ocean North – Atlantic Ocean

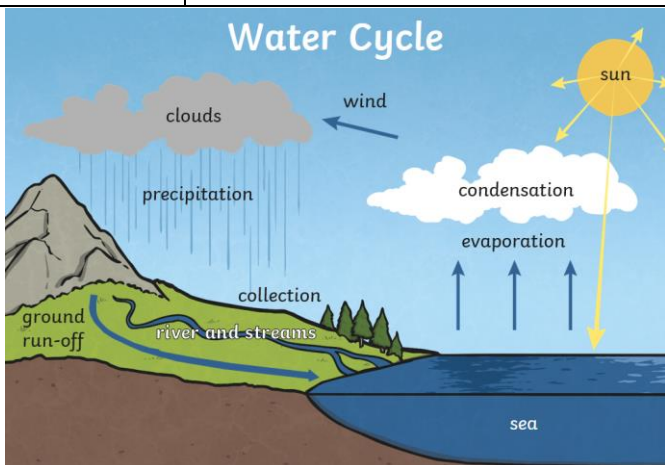
Key Vocabulary	
Sea	Big areas of water next to land – there are 85 seas in the world
Ocean	Huge area of water – there are 5 Oceans
Island	An area of land completely surrounded by water
County	All the land in the UK is split into 100 large areas called counties.
Capital city	The main city of the country (usually where the Government is.
River	A flowing body of water traveling from high ground to low
Mountain	Land that rises high above its surroundings. Taller than a hill, it usually has steep slopes and a peak.

Real-Life Outcomes	Key Skills
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “The Big Trip” - Plan a big trip around the UK using some of the knowledge learned • Write about how some land use has changed over time 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Locate places and features on a map • Use four-figure grid references • Use symbols in a key

Birch Copse Primary School – Knowledge Organiser

Geography Topic:	Rivers of the World	Year 3	Spring
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Key Knowledge	
What I already know:	
I know about the River Thames and Amazon	
What is a river?	A flowing body of water traveling from high ground to low
Where does the water go?	Rivers usually flow into an ocean , a sea , a lake or another river (see tributary)
Where does the water come from?	From the rain. When rain hits the ground it flows down to the river (see watershed and river basin)
Rivers	
Flow	Rivers always flow downhill – this is because of gravity
Meander	Water will take the easiest route downhill, twisting and turning around obstacles. This is called meandering
Erosion	As it meanders , water flows faster on the outside of the river, eroding the banks on that side.
Deposition	Any materials the river erodes from the outside, it will deposit on the insides of river bends where it flows more slowly
Erosion and deposition makes the river meander even more	





The Water Cycle	
What is the Water Cycle?	Water changing from a liquid to water vapour and back again. It has four stages
Evaporation	Heat, from the sun, turns water into water vapour. This is a gas and rises into the sky
Condensation	As it rises, the air is cooler. Cool air causes the water vapour to turn back into liquid water as tiny water droplets which make clouds
Precipitation	As clouds move into the wind they might travel higher, getting colder. When this happens, the water droplets get bigger and eventually fall as rain
Collection	Some Water collects in streams and rivers, flowing down to the sea
	Most water soaks into the ground. This is called groundwater. Some will find its way to rivers and seas.
	

Major Rivers of the World			
Continent	River	Length (km)	Interesting Fact
Europe	Volga	2,850	Longest in Europe
	Rhine	1,230	The Source is in the Alps mountains
	Danube	2,850	Travels through the most countries (10)
Asia	Ganges	2,525	A sacred river to Hindus
	Yangtze	6,240	Longest in Asia. Third longest in the world
Africa	Nile	6,695	Longest river in the world
North America	Mississippi	3,730	At its widest, the river is over 7 miles wide
South America	Amazon	6,400	Largest river basin in the world (by far)
Australia	Murray-Darling	3,680	Longest in Australia. Actually two rivers joined together

Real-Life Outcomes	Key Skills
"The Water Cycle" Write the story of the water cycle from the point of view of a water droplet or design a poster explaining the water cycle	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use maps to locate rivers • Use digital mapping to locate rivers and see the features mentioned

Birch Copse Primary School – Knowledge Organiser

Geography Topic:	Settlements	Year 3	Summer
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	Settlement type	Description	Local examples	Specific example
Hamlet		A very small settlement . It is rural and does not have a church. Usually has a population of less than 100.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chapel Row • Pingewood • Lower Padworth 	Burghfield Bridge Population: 200 Public amenities: Pub
Village		A small settlement , sometimes with a church and small shops. Usually in rural areas but may be joined to an urban area. Usually has a population between 100 and 10,000.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tilehurst • Theale • Purley on Thames • Bradfield • Sulham 	Pangbourne Population: 3,000 Public amenities: Parish hall, churches, shops, primary school, railway station
Town		A settlement with lots of houses, shops and other public amenities . A town may have a local council or a market square. Can have a population anywhere between 1,000 and 100,000.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reading • Henley on Thames • Windsor • Thatcham 	Newbury Population: 41,000 Public amenities: Racecourse, churches, library, theatre and cinema, a museum
City		A city is a large urban area where lots of people live close to each other. There are often lots of shops and public amenities in a city. Usually has a population over 100,000.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Southampton • Portsmouth • London • Salisbury 	Oxford Population: 150,000 Public amenities: University, Museums, cathedral, shopping centres, libraries, museums and galleries.

Key Vocabulary	
Rural	The countryside.
Suburban	The outer parts of the city.
Population	The number of people living in a certain area
Public amenities	Useful or pleasant services or facilities that can be used by anyone

Key Vocabulary	
Settlements	A settlement is a place where people live. It can consist of a single house or a group of homes. Settlements can contain different types of housing, parkland, shops and factories.
Urban	An area where a large amount of people live near to each other. Urban areas have lots of buildings and roads.

Real-Life Outcomes	Key Skills
“Estate Agent” Design an Estate Agent Poster to sell a house in one of these types of settlement – including information learned OR Write about the differences between two of these types of settlement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use four-figure grid references to locate some of these settlements on a map • Use symbols and key (including the use of Ordnance Survey maps) to locate and plot some of the places and features they have learned about.



Birch Copse Primary School – Knowledge Organiser

Geography Topic:	Europe	Year 4	Autumn
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Key Knowledge				
Europe		A continent made up of 44 countries		
Some of the countries				
Area		Country	Population (millions)	Capital City
Northern (incl. Scandinavia)		UK	66	London
		Norway	5	Oslo
		Sweden	10	Stockholm
		Finland	6	Helsinki
Southern (Mediterranean)		Greece	11	Athens
		Spain	47	Madrid
		Italy	61	Rome
Western	France		67	Paris
	Germany		83	Berlin
	Switzerland		8	Bern
	The Netherlands		17	Amsterdam/ The Hague
Eastern	Russia		145	Moscow
	Poland		38	Warsaw
	Czech Republic		11	Prague
Key Knowledge (Physical features)				
Mountain Ranges		Alps, Pyrennes, Urals, Caucasus		
Mountains		Mount Elbrus (5,642m) Mont Blanc (4,810m)		
Major Rivers		Volga, Danube, Rhine		
Seas		Mediterranean (South) Atlantic Ocean (West) Arctic Ocean, North Sea, Baltic Sea (North) Black Sea (East)		
Other notable physical features		Black Forest Greek Islands Norwegian Fjords		



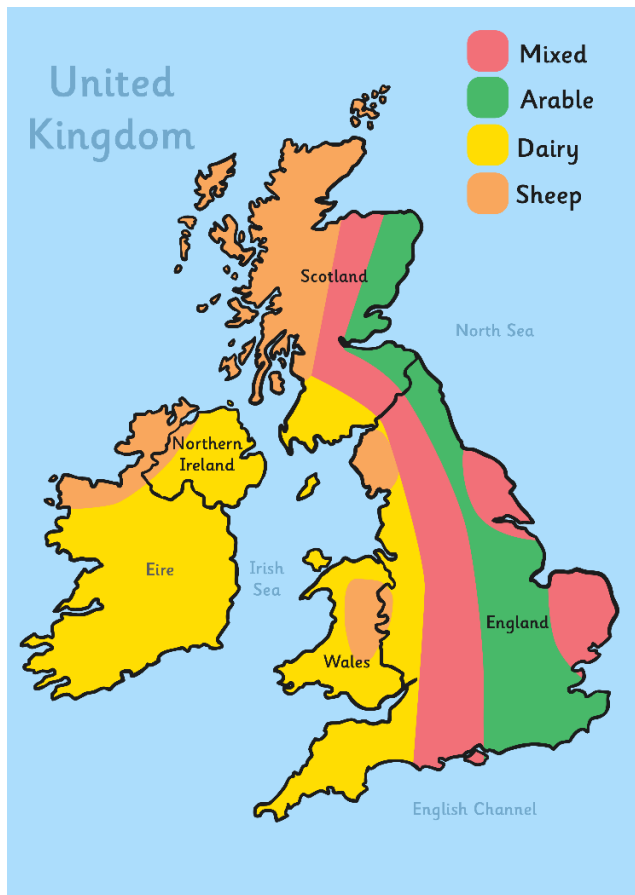
Climate	
Northern Europe	Cold winters and cool summers
Eastern Europe	Cold winters and cool, humid summers
Western Europe	Mild and humid
Southern Europe	Mediterranean – Dry and warm
Key Knowledge (Human features)	
Landmark	Location
The Parthenon	Athens, Greece
The Colosseum	Rome, Italy
Eiffel Tower	Paris, France
Brandenburg Gate	Berlin, Germany
Saint Basil's Cathedral	Moscow, Russia
Charles Bridge	Prague, Czech Republic
Royal Palace of Madrid	Madrid, Spain
Key Vocabulary	
Continent	A large collection of countries next to each other. There are 7 continents
Capital city	The main city of the country (usually where the Government is).
Population	The number of people living in an area
Climate	The general weather conditions
Physical features	Natural features (e.g. rivers, mountains, forests)
Human features	Made-man features (e.g. buildings and roads)
Scandinavia	An area of Northern Europe which includes Norway, Sweden, Finland and Denmark.
The Gulf Stream	A huge ocean current of warm water which travels from Mexico to the UK
Humid	When there is a lot of water vapour or moisture in the air

Real-Life Outcomes	Key Skills
<p>“City of Cool”</p> <p>Hold an awards ceremony for the Birch Copse “city of cool” - which is the ‘coolest’ city in Europe to live in? This will be the city with the most interesting human and/or physical geographical features - compared with Reading or London</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Locate the key places (above) on maps, globes and digital computer mapping • Present information knowledgably about a city in the UK and a city in Europe • Use 8 compass points and use 4 figure grid references • Make a map including landmarks, using symbols in a key

Birch Copse Primary School – Knowledge Organiser

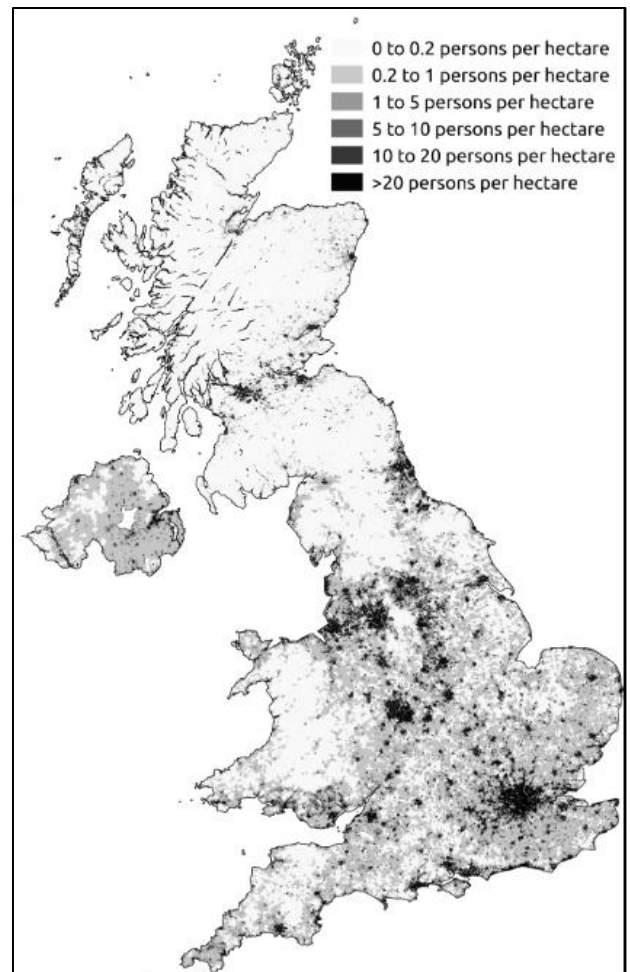
Geography Topic:	Land Use	Year 4	Spring
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Key Knowledge	
Land Use	The main use of an area of land
Urban	Towns and cities (about 10% of the UK)
Rural	Countryside, farms and small villages (about 90% of the UK)
Rural Land Use in the UK	
Wood/ forest	A large area of trees (about 15%)
Mountains/ Moorlands	High, hilly areas – moorlands are covered with mainly grass and heather (about 20%)
Coastal	Area of land next to the sea
Farms	Rural land which is used to grow crops or keep animals on (about 60%)



Dairy farming	Farms where cows produce milk
Sheep farming	Farms where sheep are raised
Arable farming	Farms where crops are grown
Mixed farming	A mixture of animals and crops

Key Knowledge	
Urban Land Use in the UK	
Buildings	Houses, shops, factories, schools etc.
Transportation	Railway lines and stations, airports and roads
Green Urban	Parks, sports pitches, gardens



Key Vocabulary

Green belt	Rural land around an urban area which is not allowed to be built on
Density	How much something is filled – in this case, with people
Population	The people who live in a country or area
Map Key	A list of symbols and their meaning
Symbols	A picture that represents a real thing
Crops	A plant that is grown for food

Real-Life Outcomes	Key Skills
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Tilehurst, Past and Present” Create a map overlay (using tracing paper) of Tilehurst today and in the past • Write about the pros and cons of building new houses on ‘green’ land (e.g. the local development near Sulham and Chapel Hill) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use maps to locate countries and describe features studied • Use four-figure grid references to build their knowledge of the United Kingdom • Use symbols and key (including the use of Ordnance Survey maps) to build their knowledge of the United Kingdom

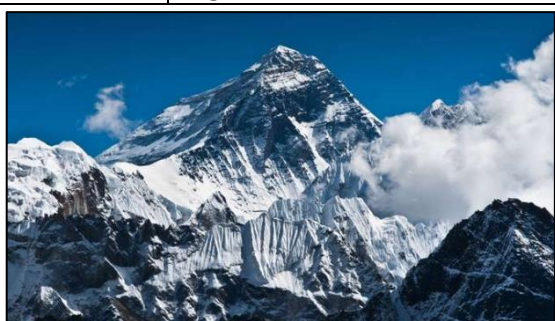
Birch Copse Primary School – Knowledge Organiser

Geography Topic:	Mountains	Year 4	Summer
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Key Knowledge	
How are mountains formed?	Most are formed when tectonic plates move pushing rocks up. The longer this happens, the higher the rocks are pushed, and the higher the mountains can be.
How long does it take?	Tectonic plates move very slowly so it can take millions of years for mountains to form.
Climate	Generally, the higher the altitude the colder it is.
Weather	Mountain areas can have high rainfall on the windward side of a mountain but it is dry on the leeward side

Mountain Ranges	
The Himalayas	Asia. They are the highest mountains in the world.
The Rocky Mountains	North America. They stretch from North West Canada to South West U.S.A.
The Andes	South America. The longest in the world
The Ural Mountains	Europe. This mountain range forms part of the border between Europe and Asia
The Alps	Europe. Mont Blanc is the highest mountain in Western Europe

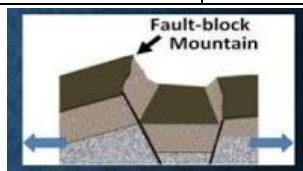
Mountains	
Everest	Highest Mountain in the World
Kilimanjaro	Highest Mountain in Africa.
Fuji	A volcano – highest mountain in Japan
Matterhorn	A famous mountain in the Alps
Ben Nevis	Highest mountain in the U.K.



Mount Everest
8,850 metres

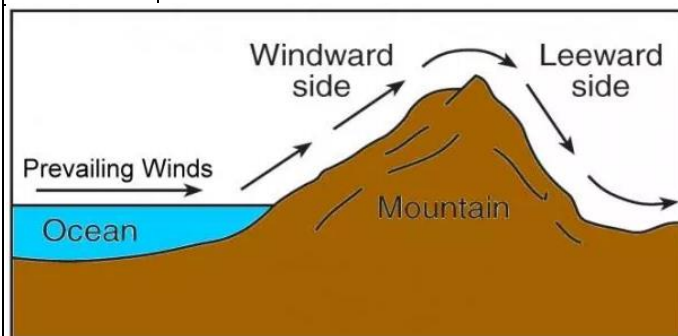


Fold Mountain



Block Mountain

Key Vocabulary	
Mountain range	A group of mountains that form a chain or cluster
Slope	The slanted side of a mountain
Summit	The highest point on a mount
Valley	Low ground in between mountains
Tectonic plates	Large pieces of rock that make up the Earth's surface
Magma	Magma is liquid rock deep below the Earth's surface. It is extremely hot.
Altitude	A measurement of distance, going up
Windward	The side that faces the wind
Leeward	The side facing away from the wind. The mountain shelters this side so it is calm.



Mountain types	There are four main types: fold, block, dome and volcanic mountains
Fold Mountain	The most common type. Formed when two tectonic plates collide head on and the land crumples causing mountains to form.
Block Mountain	When tectonic activity either pushes blocks of earth up or they sink down causing mountains with steep sides.
Dome Mountain	When magma pushes up from under the earth but doesn't get to the surface. It pushes the land up into a dome shape
Volcanic Mountain	Similar to a dome mountain but where the magma does break through the surface



Dome Mountain




Volcanic Mountain

Real-Life Outcomes	Key Skills
<p>"King/Queen of the Mountains"</p> <p>Plan an expedition to climb one or more famous mountain(s). Plan the route and write a plan including knowledge learned in this unit</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use maps and atlases to locate mountains and mountain ranges Use digital/computer mapping to locate countries and describe features studied

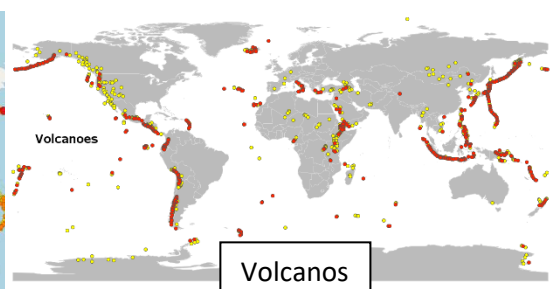
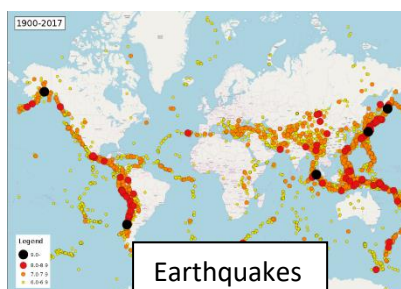
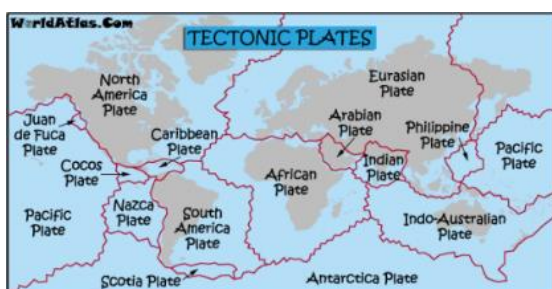
Birch Copse Primary School – Knowledge Organiser

Geography Topic:	Natural Disasters	Year 5	Autumn
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Key Knowledge	
What is a volcano?	A mountain that has had lava coming out of it
What causes volcanos?	Magma rises to towards the earth's surface and places pressure on the crust. When two tectonic plates move, this can cause a weakness in the crust and the pressure is released causing a volcanic eruption. When the volcano erupts the magma becomes lava and it shoots into the air or runs down the side of the volcano. The lava cools forming new crust and over time this becomes the
Famous volcanos	<div style="display: flex; align-items: center;"> <div style="flex: 1;"> Mount Vesuvius, Italy Mount St. Helen's USA Mauna Loa, Hawaii Krakatoa, Indonesia Mount Fuji, Japan Mount Tambora, Indonesia (largest ever) </div>  </div>
What is an earthquake?	When the surface of the earth shakes
What causes earthquakes?	When two tectonic plates rub against each other and they get stuck, causing pressure to builds up until it becomes too much and eventually breaks. This sudden release of energy causes the seismic waves that make the ground shake.
Famous earthquakes	Valdivia, Chile 1960 – most powerful ever (magnitude 9.5) San Francisco, USA 1906
What causes a tsunami?	When an earthquake happens underwater. This can cause huge waves which travel away from the earthquake epicentre in all directions until they reach land
Famous tsunamis	Boxing Day Tsunami, Asia, 2004

Key Vocabulary	
Tectonic plates	Pieces of the crust, which float on the mantle. They overlap and separate, sometime causing volcanos or earthquakes
Plate boundary	Where two tectonic plates meet
Volcanos	
Active	A volcano that has erupted in the last 10,000 years and may erupt in the future
Dormant	A volcano that hasn't erupted for a long time but may do in the future
Extinct	A volcano that has not erupted in the last 10,000 years and will not erupt in the future
Magma	Hot, molten rock below the crust
Lava	Name given to magma when it reaches the earth's surface
Eruption	When a volcano explodes. Rock, lava and gas are ejected from it
Crust	Solid, outer layer of the earth
Earthquakes	
Epicentre	The point on the earth's surface directly above the focus of the earthquake
magnitude	The size or strength of an earthquake
Seismic waves	Travel through the earth from the epicentre of an earthquake. They shake the earth as they move through it
Richter scale	A scale to measure the strength of an earthquake from 1 – 10.

Real-Life Outcomes	Key Skills
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • "In the news" - Video a news presentation about a natural disaster using what has been learned in the unit. • Write a newspaper report about a natural disaster 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Locate the key places (above) on world maps • Use 6-figure grid references • Describe and understand key aspects of volcanos and earthquakes



Birch Copse Primary School – Knowledge Organiser

Geography Topic:	The Americas	Year 5	Spring
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Key Knowledge			
North America		A continent of 23 countries	
South America		A continent of 12 countries	
Some of the countries			
Area	Country	Population (millions)	Capital City
North America	United States of America (USA)	330	Washington D.C
	Canada	36	Ottawa
	Mexico	113	Mexico City
	Cuba	11	Havana
	Saint Lucia	0.2	Castries
South America	Brazil	205	Brasilia
	Argentina	43	Buenos Aires
	Peru	31	Lima
	Uruguay	3	Montevideo
St Lucia Focus			
Where		An island in the Caribbean Sea	
		Part of a group of islands called the Windward Islands	
Population		170,000	
Capital City		Castries	
Climate		Tropical. An average temperature of 29°C all year. Wet season from June - Nov	
Language		English	
Two Pitons		Two mountains. A national symbol	
Bananas			
Banana farming is very important to St Lucia			
Most of the farmland is used to grow them			
Half the population earn their living from bananas			
Their nickname for bananas is ‘Green Gold’			
Fairtrade	An organisation which ensures farmers get a fair price		
Key Vocabulary			
Climate		The general weather conditions	
Mountain range		A series of connected mountains	
Physical features		Natural features	
Human features		Made-man features	
Capital city		The main city of the country	
Population		The number of people living in an area	
Continent		A large collection of countries next to each other.	


Key Knowledge (Physical features)	
Major Rivers	Amazon (6,400m long) Mississippi (3,730m long)
Oceans and Seas	West – Pacific East – Atlantic Caribbean Sea
Highest Mountains	Rockies - Denali (6,190m high) Andes - Aconcagua (6,960m high)
Mountain Ranges	Andes (S. America) Rockies (N. America)
Other notable physical features	The Great Lakes The Grand Canyon The Angel Falls & Niagara Falls
Key Knowledge (Human features)	
Landmark	Location
Christ the Redeemer	Rio De Janerio, Brazil
Machu Picchu	Andes mountains, Peru
Moai Statues	Easter Island, Chile
Chichen Itza	Mexico
CN Tower	Toronto, Canada
Statue of Liberty	New York, USA
Golden Gate Bridge	San Francisco, USA



Real-Life Outcomes	Key Skills
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • "Holiday of a lifetime" Plan and present the trip of a lifetime visiting all the highlights of the Americas learned in this unit • Write about the story of the banana from source to supermarket 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use atlases, globes and digital/computer mapping to locate countries and describe features studied • Use six-figure grid references and the eight points of a compass to build their knowledge of the wider world

Birch Copse Primary School – Knowledge Organiser

Geography Topic:	Tilehurst	Year 5	Summer
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Where are we?	
Berkshire	Reading is a town in the county of Berkshire.
	Berkshire is the 9 th smallest county in England but has a population of 860,000
	

Berkshire is split into 6 **Unitary Authorities**. Tilehurst is on the **border** of two of them: Reading and West Berkshire.

	
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Real-Life Outcomes	Key Skills
<p>“Encyclopaedia of Tilehurst”</p> <p>As a class, create a page for an encyclopaedia of Tilehurst – taking a different aspect each to write about</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use local maps and digital/computer mapping to locate and describe features studied • Use six-figure grid references and the eight points of a compass • Use symbols and key (including the use of Ordnance Survey maps) to build their knowledge of the United Kingdom

Key Knowledge (Physical features)	
Landscape	Tilehurst is on the top of a hill. To the North, land slopes gently down towards the River Thames valley . The gradient is steep to the West (Sulham Woods) and the South towards the River Kennet valley. To the East, there is a gentle gradient down to Reading.
Rivers	The River Thames forms the north boarder of Tilehurst. The River Kennet is to the south and the River Pang runs to the west.
Sulham and Tidmarsh Woods and Meadows	A Site of Specific Scientific Interest (SSSI) – this means it is protected from being built on. It includes woodland, fields and Moors Copse Nature Reserve.
West Reading Woodlands	The woodlands are made up of 4 nature reserves: Blundells Copse, Lousehill Copse, McIlroy Park and Round Copse.
Soil	Loam soil in the top of the hill – good for farming. The rest of Tilehurst sits on clay soil.

Key Knowledge (Human features)	
Tilehurst Station	Great Western Main Line from London Paddington to Bristol
Tilehurst Triangle	The centre of Tilehurst – it is called this as the roads used to form a triangle
Water towers	Tilehurst Water tower and Norcot Water Tower
Houses	Tilehurst houses range from thatched cottages to Victorian and Edwardian terrace houses (built using bricks from Tilehurst kilns) to semi-detached housing estates built in the 1950s -60s.
4 parish churches	Tilehurst parish is split between four churches: St Catherine, St George, St Mary Magdalen and St Michael.
Roads	North border is A329 and the south boarder is the A4 (Bath Road). The M4 motorway bypasses the town of Reading to the South
Wilder's Folly	A folly and dovecote on Nunhide hill at the bottom of Sulham Woods

Key Vocabulary	
Border	An imaginary line between two places
Copse	A small group of trees very close to each other
County	The UK is split into 100 counties. There are 48 in England.
Dovecote	A building for pigeons or doves to live in
Gradient	A slope
Folly	A small tower built for decoration
Parish	An area of land with its own elected council
Unitary Authorities	An area of land where all local services are provided by this authority.
Valley	A low area of land between hills. It usually has a river flowing through it.
Water tower	A tank that collects rainwater. It is high up so the water can flow down into pipes



Birch Copse Primary School – Knowledge Organiser

Geography Topic:	The World	Year 6	Autumn
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Key Knowledge			
7 continents	Africa, Europe, Asia, North America, South America, Australia, Antarctica		
5 oceans	Pacific, Atlantic, Indian, Southern, Artic		
Key Knowledge (Physical features)			
Waterfalls	Victoria Falls – Africa Niagra Falls – N. America Angel Falls - Venezuela		
Rivers	The Nile (Africa) – longest The Amazon (S. America) – holds most water		
Deserts	The Sahara (Africa) – largest, Australian Desert, Arabian Desert		
Lakes	Lake Superior - USA/ Canada – largest Lake Baikal - Russia – deepest		
Mountains	Everest, Asia (8,850m) Kilimanjaro, Africa (5895m)		
Other	Grand Canyon – USA Amazon Rainforest –S. America The Great Barrier Reef – Australia		
Continents			
Name	Size (square miles)	Countries (number)	Population (millions)
Asia	17,200,000	50	4,600
Africa	11,700,000	54	1,300
N. America	9,500,000	23	750
S. America	6,900,000	12	590
Antarctica	5,400,000	0	430
Europe	3,900,000	51	42
Australia	3,300,000	14	0
Oceans			
Name	Area (Km²)	Interesting fact	
Pacific	168,723,000	Marianas Trench – deepest point in the world	
Atlantic	85,133,000	Has the largest island-Greenland	
Indian	70,560,000	Warmest Ocean	
Southern	21,960,000	Surrounds Antarctica	
Arctic	15,558,000	Covered in ice in winter	

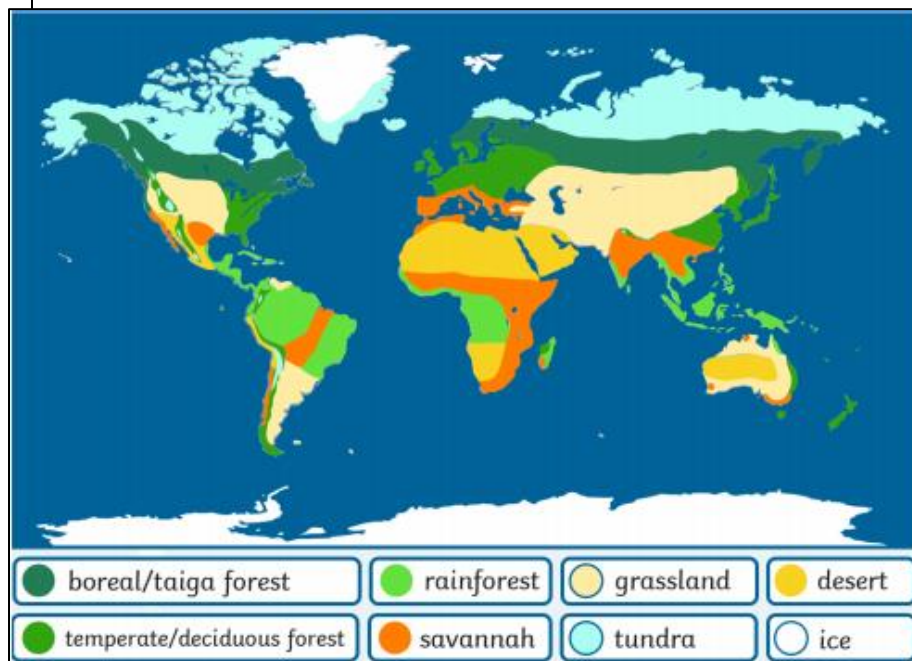
Key Knowledge (Human features)		
Great Wall of China	Longest wall in the world at 2,150 miles.	
Taj Mahal (India)	A famous mausoleum built in 1643 in Agra, India	
Christ the Redeemer Statue (Brazil)	Famous statue of Jesus Christ - on top of <i>Corcovado</i> mountain overlooking Rio de Janeiro	
Great Pyramid of Giza (Egypt)	Oldest of the 7 Wonders of the Ancient World.	
Panama Canal	Canal connecting the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans	
Burj Khalifa (Dubai)	Tallest structure in the world	
Channel Tunnel	Tunnel linking England to France below the English Channel	
Notable countries (recall countries from Yr3 UK, Yr4 Europe & Yr5 Americas)		
Country	Population (millions)	Capital City
China	1,390	Beijing
India	1,340	New Delhi
Australia	27	Canberra
Japan	127	Tokyo
Nigeria	182	Abuja
South Africa	57	It has 3. Pretoria, Cape Town and Bloemfontein
United Arab Emirates	9	Dubai
Key Vocabulary		
Capital city	The main city of the country	
Population	The number of people living in an area	
Continent	A large collection of countries next to each other.	
Physical features	Natural features	
Human features	Made-man features	

Real-Life Outcomes	Key Skills
<p>“Around the World in 80 Days” Plan an expedition to travel around the world – visiting all 7 continents and some of the features listed here.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Locate the key places (above) on maps, globes and digital computer mapping • Present information knowledgeably about locations across the world • Use 8 compass points and use 6 figure grid references • Label and create maps using symbols in a key

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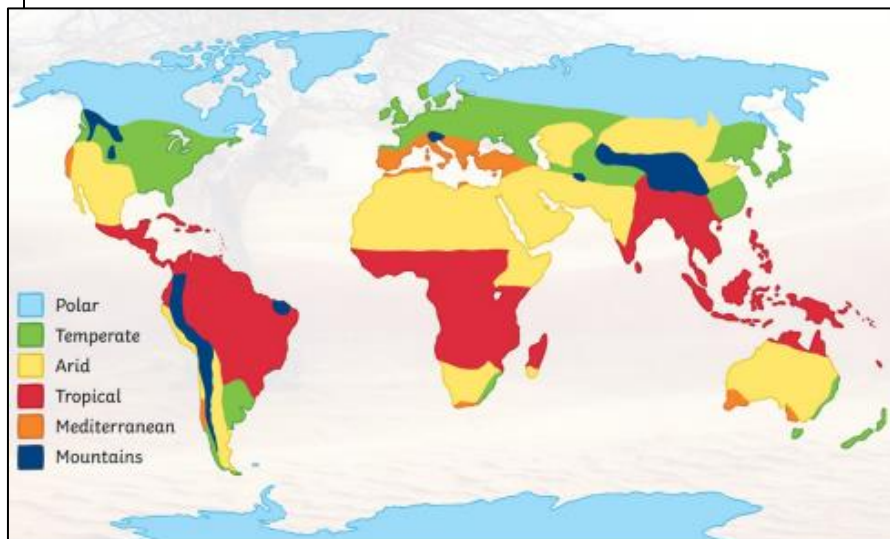
Geography Topic:	Biomes and Climate Zones	Year 6	Spring
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BIOMES



Biome	A huge area of plants and animals living together in a certain kind of climate .
Boreal/Taiga forest	A forest of evergreen trees. Found in colder temperate climates
Rainforest	A thick forest found in tropical climates
Grassland	A large area covered by wild grass with no trees, Found in arid and warmer temperate climates
Desert	An area of land with little water or vegetation. Found in arid climates
Temperate/Deciduous forest	A forest with trees that shed their leaves in winter. Found in warmer temperate climates
Savannah	Like grassland but with more rainfall to allow some trees to grow
Tundra	An area of flat land with a layer of ice just below the surface.
Ice	An area of land permanently covered in ice

CLIMATE ZONES



Climate	The usual (average) patterns of weather - including temperature and rainfall
Climate zones	Areas of the Earth grouped according to their climate
Arid	Dry with little rainfall
Temperate	Never extremely hot or cold
Mountains	So high up that the cold means trees won't grow
Tropical	Humid (hot and damp). Usually near the equator
Mediterranean	Hot summers, cool wetter winters
Polar	Long periods of extreme cold

Key Vocabulary

North and south pole	the two opposite ends of Earth at its most northern and southern points	Special lines of latitude	Equator, tropics, Arctic and Antarctic circles
Lines of latitude and longitude	Lines running vertically around the world and horizontally from the poles	Longitude and time zones	The world's different time zones are based on lines of longitude

Real-Life Outcomes

Key Skills

- | | |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • "Weather report"
Deliver a weather report for a particular climate zone
Write a report about one of the 5 biomes learned about | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use atlases, globes and digital/computer mapping to locate describe features studied |
|---|---|