

Geography curriculum progression

What will our geographers be able to do when they leave us?

At West Dean CE Primary school, our geographers will have been inspired by a curiosity and fascination about the world and its people that will remain with them for the rest of their lives. Children will be equipped with knowledge about diverse places, people, resources and natural and human environments, together with a deep understanding of the Earth's key physical and human processes. They will use the correct geographical terms and vocabulary to communicate geographical ideas effectively. As children progress, their growing knowledge about the world will help them to deepen their understanding of the interaction between physical and human processes and of the formation and use of landscapes and environments. This will be taught through inspirational learning experiences which will enable them to put key geographical skills into place by means of field work, computing and developed geographical skills. Through this, the pupils will gain confidence and have practical experiences of geographical knowledge, understanding and skills that explain how the Earth's features at different scales are shaped, interconnected and change over time. From this, the pupils can continue their education with the geographical knowledge and skills to understand how humans impact and influence the physical geography of the world around us. This knowledge will help to influence their life choices in making it a better place for all of earth's inhabitants.

Curriculum Coverage (NC) Aims

The national curriculum for Geography aims to ensure that all pupils:

- develop contextual knowledge of the location of globally significant places both terrestrial and marine including their defining physical and human characteristics and how these provide a geographical context for understanding the actions of processes.
- understand the processes that give rise to key physical and human geographical features of the world, how these are interdependent and how they bring about spatial variation and change over time.
- are competent in the geographical skills needed to collect, analyse and communicate with a range of data gathered through experiences of fieldwork that deepen their understanding of geographical processes.
- interpret a range of sources of geographical information, including maps, diagrams, globes, aerial photographs and Geographical Information Systems (GIS)
- communicate geographical information in a variety of ways, including through maps, numerical and quantitative skills and writing at length.

| Geography curriculum progression | | | | | | | | |
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| Skill Focus | EYFS | Year 1 | Year 2 | Year 3 & 4 | Year 5 & 6 | | | |
| Key vocabulary | Town, weather, hot, cold, soil, here, there, near, far, season, world, village, countryside, farm, factory, house, hill, sea, beach, shop, map. | Simple vocabulary: Near, far, wet, sunny, hot, dry, cold, house, school, street, shop Human geography, Physical geography, coast, harbour, port, cliff, city, United Kingdom, world, country, forest, wood, England, Scotland, Northern Ireland, valley, North sea, Irish sea, the channel, mountain, river, office, atlas, left, right | Develop vocabulary: Hill, mountain, river, stream, sea, beach, village, town, field, bridge, footpath, attractive, journey, polar, arctic, desert Ocean, Atlantic, Pacific, Indian, continent (including names), capital, North, East, South, West, vegetation, globe, North pole, South pole, equator, compass, route, location, Europe | Continue to develop vocabulary: Temperature, rainfall, environment, landscape, transport, pollution, rainforest, tropical, temperate, Mediterranean, humid, climate, urban, rural Settlement, county, human characteristics, physical characteristics, mountains, volcanoes, geology, nonEuropean, Tropic of Cancer and Capricorn, hemisphere, Northern hemisphere, Southern hemisphere, climate zones, water cycle | Use precise geographical vocabulary: coastal, development, erosion, deposition, renewable, transpiration, deforestation, recyclable, sustainable, latitude, longitude Ordnance survey Greenwich, time zones, meridian, eight points of a compass, grid reference, symbol key, economic, region, distribution, trade links Be able to describe and start to explain geographical processes using the correct terminology. Biomes, longitude, latitude, rivers, meander, natural resources, distribution, vegetation belts Tropic of Cancer and Capricorn, hemisphere, Northern hemisphere, Southern hemisphere | | | |
| Locational knowledge | Explore the natural world around them, making observations and drawing pictures of animals and plants. Know some similarities and differences between the natural world around them and contrasting environments, drawing on their experiences and what has been read in class. Understand some important processes and changes in the natural world around them, including the seasons and changing states of matter. | Name, locate and identify characteristics of the four countries and capital cities of the United Kingdom. Understand the difference between human and physical geography | Name and locate the surrounding seas of the United Kingdom. Name and locate the world's seven continents and five oceans. | Using maps, name and locate countries in Europe, name and identify capital cities of European countries. Study key physical and human characteristics of European regions. Study the United Kingdom, locate some local counties and capital cities but to include West Sussex, our village West Dean and the city of Chichester. | Using maps, name and locate the world's countries, consolidate knowledge of European countries and extend knowledge to include Russia and North and South America and other parts of the world. Extend knowledge of worldwide environmental regions, look at key physical and human characteristics. Name and locate a greater number of counties and cities of the United Kingdom. | | | |
| Place knowledge | | Study the human and physical characteristics of the local area | Understand and study the differences between human | Understand geographical similarities and differences | Understand geographical similarities and differences | | | |

| | - West Dean | and physical Geography with a study of a local and contrasting location. | through a study of a location of geographical interest in the local area. | through a study of a location of geographical interest in the local area and extend to compare with another contrasting location in another part of the world. |
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| Human and physical geography | Identify seasonal and daily weather patterns in the UK - study the characteristics locally of each season. Identify the location of hot and cold parts of the world. Geographical vocabulary associated with human and physical geography:, forest, hill, mountain, soil, valley, vegetation, city, town, village, factory, farm, house, office. | Understand why countries are hot and cold in the world in relation to the Equator and the North and South Poles. Geographical vocabulary associated with human and physical geography:, beach, cliff, coast, forest, hill, mountain, sea, river, soil, valley, vegetation, season and weather, city, town, village, factory, farm, house, office, port, harbour and shop. | Begin to understand key aspects of physical geography focusing on rivers and the water cycle (with links to the science curriculum) Begin to understand key aspects of human geography, including settlement - link with the history curriculum Look at the distribution of natural resources, focusing on energy, food, minerals and water. The water cycle - links with science and rivers topic. | Describe and understand key aspects of physical geography, focusing on climate zones, biomes and vegetation belts. Link with science work on animals and their habitats. Describe and understand key aspects of human geography, look at settlement in greater depth and land use. Look at economic activity, including trade links |
| Geographical skills and fieldwork | Positional and directional language; up/down, left/right, behind/in front of. Experiment with the use of own symbols on imaginary maps Draw picture maps of real and imaginary places from stories. Talk about and describe their own maps. Use their own observations to respond to questions about places. Use world maps and atlases to identify the United Kingdom and its countries Use simple fieldwork and observational skills to study the geography of the school grounds and the surrounding village of West Dean Devise a simple map of part of the local area, for example; the journey to West Dean Gardens or the school grounds. | Positional and directional language; north, south, east and west. Use symbols on a simple map, including a key. Make a representation of a real or imaginary place. Use locational and directional language to describe the location of features and routes on a map. Discuss and recognise landmarks and basic human and physical features. | Use maps, atlases, globes and digital/computer mapping to locate countries, begin to notice and describe some features. Use 8 points of a compass, symbols and keys to build their knowledge of the United Kingdom and the wider world where appropriate to topic work. Link with history to establish how land use has changed over time. Fieldwork: observe, measure and record human and physical features in the local area using methods such as sketch maps and digital technologies. | Use maps, atlases, globes and digital/computer mapping to locate countries, extend to describe the features studied and to explain why different features can be found in different parts of the world. Use the 8 points of a compass, symbols and key, extend to using four and six-figure grid references to further build on knowledge of the United Kingdom and the wider world. Fieldwork: observe, measure, record and present the human and physical features in the local area using a range of methods, including sketch maps, plans and graphs and digital technologies. |

