

Geography Skills Ladder



F2 Secure	Understanding the world: Children at the expected level of development will: - Talk about the lives of the people around them and their roles in society; - Know some similarities and differences between things in the past and now, drawing on their experiences and what has been read in class; - Understand the past through settings, characters and events encountered in books read in class and storytelling.			
	Locational knowledge	Place knowledge	Human and physical geography	Geography skills and fieldwork
Year 1 Secure	Locate Nottingham and London on a map of UK. Locate England on a map of the UK. Using a globe/map of the word, locate the Equator.	Locate the UK, London and Nottingham on a range of maps e.g. google maps, globes, atlas. Know that Nottingham is a city, London is a capital city and England is a country.	Identify seasonal and daily weather patterns in the United Kingdom and the location of hot and cold areas of the world in relation to the Equator and the North and South Poles. Use basic geographical vocabulary to refer to: key human features, including: city, town, village, suburb, house, office, and shop. Physical features, including: hills, rivers etc.	Use directional language (near, far, left and right) to then build up to teaching simple compass directions (North, South, East and West) to describe the location of features and routes on a map (could be covered through PE). Use aerial photographs to recognise landmarks and basic human and physical features; devise a simple map of their classroom ; use and construct basic symbols in a key. Children should observe their local area e.g. sketch their playground including its key features.
Year 2 Secure	Locate UK countries, capital cities and surrounding seas. Name and locate the world’s seven continents and five oceans. Locate Kenya on a map of the world (linked with topic)	Understand the London is the capital city of England, Edinburgh is the capital of Scotland, Cardiff is the capital of Wales and Belfast is the capital of Northern Ireland.	Use basic geographical vocabulary to refer to: key physical features, including: beach, cliff, coast, forest, hill, mountain, sea, ocean, river, soil, valley, vegetation, season and weather. Use aerial photographs and plan perspectives to recognise landmarks and basic human and physical features of London and compare with Kenya including a diverse range of settlements e.g. Nairobi and Maasai (Kenyan tribe).	Use simple compass directions (North, South, East and West) and locational and directional language [for example, near and far; left and right], to describe the location of features and routes on a map. Look at aerial photographs of the school and Top Valley . Devise their own map of the school and highlight human and physical features in a key. Collect simple data in a tally e.g. traffic count/litter count and record in a simple table or chart.
Year 3 Secure	Locate Europe on a world map, then locate some countries within Europe (but not limited to): France, Germany, Spain, Belgium, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Poland, Sweden and Russia. Locate UK on a map of Europe. Locate countries linked to topics – Egypt and Greece.	Know that the UK is in Europe. Know the capital cities of Egypt and Greece and locate them.	Human geography, including: types of settlement and land use, economic activity including trade links, and the distribution of natural resources including energy, food, minerals and water. Compare two areas e.g. Egypt and Greece (history) and their human and physical features.	Use the eight points of a compass, symbols and key (including the use of Ordnance Survey maps) to build their knowledge of the United Kingdom. Use maps, atlases, globes and digital/computer mapping to locate countries and describe features studied. Use fieldwork to 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.
Year 4 Secure	Locate the tropics on a map/globe. Locate the Mississippi on a map including its mouth and source. Using digital maps locate some of the world’s volcanoes. Use OS maps to locate mountains and hills supported by the use of the key. Locate Eyam on a map (history).	Know that the tropics include parts of NA, SA, Australia, Africa and Asia. Understand where Eyam is in relation to Nottingham.	Physical geography, including: climate zones, biomes and vegetation belts, rivers (Mississippi), mountains, volcanoes and the water cycle. Understand a key identifying rivers, mountains and volcanoes on OS maps.	Use maps, atlases, globes and digital/computer mapping to locate countries (using countries that have either topic specific mountains, rivers or volcanoes) and describe features studied. Use the eight points of a compass, four figure grid references, symbols and key (including the use of Ordnance Survey maps) to build their knowledge of the United Kingdom and Europe.
Year 5 Secure	Locate the world’s countries, using maps to focus on North and South America, concentrating on their environmental regions, key physical and human characteristics, countries, and major cities. Identify the position and significance of latitude, longitude, Equator, Northern Hemisphere, Southern Hemisphere, the Tropics of Cancer and Capricorn, Arctic and Antarctic Circle. Locate Northumbria on a map of the UK. Locate the Scandinavian countries – Denmark, Sweden and Norway	Compare North and South America with a region in the UK (Northumbria) and a region in a European country (Scandinavia). Identify countries and capital cities in North and South America.	Describe and understand the key aspects of earthquakes (linked to San Andres fault). In-depth study of North and South America: human geography linked to North and South America , including: types of settlement and land use, economic activity including trade links, and the distribution of natural resources including energy, food, minerals and water. With particular focus on bridges (San Francisco), roads (route 66) and cities (Rio de Janeiro) Physical geography: climate zones, biomes and vegetation belts and earthquakes.	Use the eight points of a compass, four and six-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. Use maps, atlases, globes and digital/computer mapping to locate countries within North and South America and describe features studied. Use fieldwork to 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
Year 6 Secure	Identify the position and significance of latitude, longitude, Equator, Northern Hemisphere, Southern Hemisphere, the Tropics of Cancer and Capricorn, Arctic and Antarctic Circle, the Prime/Greenwich Meridian and time zones (including day and night) Name and locate counties and cities of the United Kingdom. Locate the Amazon Rainforest on a map. Locate Baghdad on a map of the world.	Understand geographical similarities and differences through the study of human and physical geography of a region of the United Kingdom (Northern Ireland- Giants causeway), a region in a European country (Iceland), and a region within South America (The Amazon).	human geography, including: types of settlement and land use, economic activity including trade links, and the distribution of natural resources including energy, food, minerals and water specific to Giants causeway, Iceland and the Amazon in particular relation to sustainability.	Use the eight points of a compass, four and six-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. Use maps, atlases, globes and digital/computer mapping to locate countries within North and South America and describe features studied. Use maps, atlases, globes and digital/computer mapping to locate countries and counties and describe features studied. Use fieldwork to 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.