

Geography Curriculum 2025/26 – Years 5 & 6

	Autumn 1	Autumn 2
Topic	<u>No Focus</u>	Africa Children will explore the physical geography of Africa including biomes, climate zones & vegetation belts. They will consider the scale of Africa and how the diverse climate affects the land use. Children will locate the River Nile and investigate the significance of the river and how this natural resource is used by humans. They will compare and contrast an area of Africa (Johannesburg) with a city in the UK by creating a climate graph.
Knowledge		<p>Knowledge</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Know that Africa is a continent made up of countries. • Know that Africa spreads across both the Northern and Southern Hemisphere. • Know that Africa is surrounded by the Indian Ocean, the South Atlantic and North Atlantic. • Locate some key physical features in Africa such as: Sahara Desert, Mt Kilimanjaro, River Nile. • Know that Africa has many different biomes and understand that biomes are ecosystems. • Know that the Congo Rainforest is one of the world's largest rainforests and is located close to the equator. • Know that the Congo Rainforest is at risk of deforestation due to agriculture and logging. • Know that the River Nile runs through Egypt and provides trade links throughout Africa. • Know that the Aswan Dam is a barrier that runs through the River Nile and blocks water to create a human-made lake called a reservoir. • Know that dams can be used to produce hydroelectric power, which is a form of renewable energy. • Know that there are positive and negative effects of the Aswan Dam on the environment and locality. • Know that Johannesburg is a multicultural city in South Africa. • Know that Johannesburg is important for South Africa's economic growth, with many businesses and job opportunities. • Know that Johannesburg is very overcrowded due to population increase (using population graphs) <p>Skills</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Describe and understand key aspects of physical geography, including: climate zones, biomes and vegetation belts, • Recognise geographical issues affecting people in different places and environments • Use a range of maps and other sources of geographical information and select the most appropriate for the task. • Understand how humans affect the environment over time. • Describe and understand key aspects of human geography, including: types of settlement and land use, economic activity including trade links • Express and explain their opinions on geographical and environmental issues and recognise why other people may think differently. • Use fieldwork to observe, measure, record and present the human and physical features in the local area – measure rainfall and temperature in Ossett to compare with Johannesburg. • Create a climate graph of Johannesburg and compare it to Ossett.
Vocab		continent, countries, biomes, climate, natural resources, Aswan Dam, renewable energy, Johannesburg, urbanisation, population, economic growth, fieldwork,



Geography Curriculum 2023/24 – Years 5 & 6

	Spring 1	Spring 2
Topic	No Focus	<p>Settlements in the UK</p> <p>Children will recap the different regions of the UK and discuss how these have changed over time. Children will conduct a fieldwork study in their local town of Ossett, which explores economic activity in the town centre.</p>
Knowledge		<p>Knowledge</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Know that a settlement is a place where people live and sometimes work. • Know that the size of a settlement usually depends on how many people live there and what facilities are available. • Know that a hamlet is a very small settlement with a group of houses. • Know that a village contains houses, a school and may have a few shops e.g a Post Office. • Know that a town contains lots of houses, primary and secondary schools and sometimes a railway station. • Know that cities house lots of people and different buildings e.g. hospitals, universities. • Know that some cities can be small but are categorised as cities due to them having a cathedral. • Know that Ossett's settlements are linked to its trading industry. • Know that a large part of Ossett's economic activity is through the market. <p>Skills</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Begin to name and locate geographical regions of the UK, specifically Yorkshire, identifying human and physical characteristics, understanding how some of these characteristics have changed over time. • Understand how humans affect the environment over time. • Describe and understand key aspects of human geography, including: types of settlement and land use, economic activity including trade links • Recognise geographical issues affecting people in different places and environments. • Ask and respond to questions that involve geographical changes over time. • Choose from a range of methods when communicating geographical information • 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, graphs, and digital technologies.
Vocab		West Yorkshire, counties, settlement, land use, hamlet, village, town, city, trade, economy, fieldwork, data, survey



Geography Curriculum 2023/24 – Years 5 & 6

	Summer 1	Summer 2
Topic	<u>No Focus</u>	Rivers and Mountains- Lake District Children will explore the physical geography of the Lake District and make comparisons to their local area. They will use geographical skills to study maps of these regions.
Knowledge		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Knowledge • Know that the Lake District is a mountainous region in the North West of England. • Know that the Lake District is in the county of Cumbria. • Know that the Lake District has many physical features such as mountains, valleys, lakes and rivers. • Know that there are areas of land in the Lake District used for Slate mining and quarrying. • Know that hill or upland farms (like those in the Lake District) are very different to lowland farms because of the altitude (height) and harsher climate. • Know there are two major towns in the Lake District National Park: Keswick and Bowness on Windermere. • Know that the Lake District is the biggest national park in England. • Know that a national park is an area of the countryside, protected by the government to conserve wildlife and natural beauty. • Know that national parks are popular tourist destinations. • Know that the tallest mountain in England (Scafell Pike) is in the Lake District. • Know that the mountains of the Lake District were formed over millions of years by: the collision of tectonic plates, volcanic activity and erosion by glaciers (fold mountains, plateau mountains and volcanic mountains) • Know that contour lines are lines that join up areas of equal height on a map. • Know that by looking at how far apart the contour lines of an area are, we can tell how steep or flat the land is. • Know that grid references help us to locate features/places on a map. • Know that six-figure grid references are much more accurate than four-figure grid references. <p>Skills</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify physical features of the localities they study. • Understand how humans affect the environment over time. • Begin to name and locate geographical regions of the UK, specifically Yorkshire, identifying human and physical characteristics, understanding how some of these characteristics have changed over time. • Recognise geographical issues affecting people in different places and environments. • Describe and understand key aspects of physical geography, including: rivers, mountains and the water cycle. • Compare the physical and human features of two regions of the United Kingdom (Derwentwater and Wakefield), identifying the similarities and differences. • Use 8 points of a compass, 4 and 6 figure grid references, symbols and keys to build knowledge of the UK and the wider world. • Express and explain their opinions on geographical and environmental issues and recognise why other people may think differently. • Use a range of maps and other sources of geographical information and select the most appropriate for the task.
Vocab		Lake District, county, mountainous region, national park, tourism, mountains, tectonic plates, volcanic activity, erosion, mining, altitude, contour lines, grid references, OS maps



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	Autumn 2
Topic	<p>North America Children will locate the world's countries, using maps to focus on North America, concentrating on their environmental regions, key physical and human characteristics. They will build an awareness of famous landmarks in North America and investigate how natural resources are used and distributed across North America and the wider world. Children will explore how human activity has impacted Nevada and compare this region with Yorkshire.</p>
Knowledge	<p>Knowledge</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Know there are lots of countries in North America including: USA, Canada, Mexico and Jamaica. • Know USA is a country in North America, which contains 50 states. • Know in England, we have counties but in USA they have states. There are 50 altogether. • Name some of the southern states of the USA, Caribbean Islands and Central and South American Countries. • Know that States are different to counties because they have their own laws and rules and they each have their own government. • Know the most populated country in North America is the USA. • Know there are lots of famous cities in North America, which attract many people (job opportunities/tourism) • Know New York City is home to the Empire State Building and the Statue of Liberty. • Know Washington DC is where the President of the USA lives (The White House) • Know Las Vegas is a desert region, famous for its casinos and entertainment. • Know Havana is an old city in Cuba, which looks very different to other parts of Northern America. • Know in the tropical zones of North America farmers harvest lots of foods which are exported around the world. • Know across Northern America, there are lots of forestry organisations, which chop down trees and export it around the world for building and other uses such as paper production. • Know North America's economy is largely funded through mining of coal, which is used for energy. • Know Nevada is a mining state. Yorkshire is county famous for coal mining. • Know Dams are structures built to: prevent flooding, hold water and produce power. • Know The Hoover Dam (Las Vegas) increased the population of Las Vegas. • Know many tourists visit the Hoover Dam and the reservoir produces water and power for millions of people. • Know dams can cause loss of animal habitats, overfishing and pollution. <p>Skills</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Know how to critically evaluate responses to local geographical issues or global issues and events. • Recognise geographical issues affecting people in different places and environments. • Use a range of maps and other sources of geographical information and select the most appropriate for the task. • Ask and respond to questions that are more causal. • Express and explain their opinions on geographical and environmental issues and recognise why other people may think differently • Ask and respond to questions that involve geographical changes over time. • Develop their views and attitudes to critically evaluate responses to local geographical issues or global issues and events. • Know how to find countries, states and biomes on a map. • Know how to use a range of maps to find geographical information
Vocab	<p>North America, USA, States, government, New York, Empire State Building, Washington DC, Las Vegas, Havana, export, natural resources, economy, population, tourism hydro-electric power, renewable/non-renewable energy, pollution, dams, Hoover Dam</p>



	Spring 2
Topic	China Children will develop their understanding of human features of China including: types of settlement and land use and the distribution of natural resources. They will develop their understanding of physical features of China, including earthquakes and the impact they have on people. They will also explore and compare maps of China.
Knowledge	<p>Knowledge</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Know China is a country in Asia. • Know China is a country with many different landscapes (mountains, deserts, flat lands) • Know the biomes of China: forests, grasslands, deserts, plateau. • Know the Himalayas are in China including Mt Everest, the world's highest mountain. • Know China is the country with the world's highest population • Know most people live in Eastern China due to a large number of major cities (Shanghai and Hong Kong) and job opportunities • Know the Eastern Coast ports provide trading opportunities with other countries. • Know Western China has a low population due to deserts and mountainous regions. • Know An Earthquake Case Study: Sichuan Earthquake (2008) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - catastrophic earthquake which had a large impact on the population . - Rural, less developed area so damages were significant. - Millions of buildings destroyed, communications, landslides, power and water supplies cut off. Rivers polluted with chemicals and floods. • Know earthquake preparations include: regular drills and practise evacuations, designing buildings which withstand strong tremors, households given survival kits and government investments for earthquake preparations. • Know the economy has developed through manufacturing 'made in China' • Know urban areas are becoming overcrowded (due to population increase) • Know China has built more factories and power stations to provide electricity. • Know that levels of air pollution and desertification have increased (areas of land becoming desert due to too much farming activity and loss of nutrients in soil) <p>Skills</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ask and respond to questions that involve geographical changes over time. • Describe and understand key aspects of human geography, including: types of settlement and land use, economic activity including trade links • Use a range of maps (including population maps) and other sources of geographical information and select the most appropriate for the task. • Develop their views and attitudes to critically evaluate responses to local geographical issues or global issues and events. • 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, graphs, and digital technologies <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recognise geographical issues affecting people in different places and environments. • Understand how humans affect the environment over time. • Know how the economy in China has developed over time.
Vocab	China, Asia, trade, economy, land use, topographical features, population, economic growth, natural resources, earthquake, case study, Sichuan Earthquake, manufacturing, globalisation, global supply chain

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Summer 1 & 2	
Topic	<p>Rivers and Coasts (Boggle Hole)</p> <p>Children will explore the physical geography of Whitby and surrounding coasts and consider how this has changed over time. They will use a range of maps including OS maps. They will learn about how coastal erosion occurs and the impact it has on the local community and environment. Children will also compare Whitby and Ossett using maps, images and their visit.</p>
Knowledge	<p>Knowledge</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Know what an OS Map is. • Know that Whitby is a coastal town in Yorkshire. • Know that Whitby overlooks the North Sea • Know that Whitby is split by the River Esk. • Know that Whitby is a famous tourist attraction in Yorkshire. • Know that Whitby is close to the North Yorkshire Moors. • Know that there are famous landmarks in Whitby (Whitby Abbey, Jaw Bones, Captain Cook memorial) • Know that Whitby is well known for its fishing trade • Know the stages of the water cycle (precipitation, evaporation, condensation, ground run off, transpiration) • Know that there are different stages of a river. • Know that the source of a river is where a river begins. • Know that streams join together to form river channels • Know that the mouth of a river is where the river meets the sea. • Know what a flood plain is (a flat area around a river, which often floods) • Know what an ox-bow lake is (An oxbow lake is formed when a wide meander of a river is cut off, creating a U-shaped lake) • Be able to name types of erosion that happen around Whitby (caves, arches and stacks) • Know that sea barriers and sea walls are types of erosion protection used on the coast of Yorkshire. <p>Skills:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Know about the physical features of coasts and begin to understanding erosion and deposition. • Know how to use 8 points of a compass, 4 and 6 figure grid references, symbols and keys to build knowledge of the UK and the wider world. • Know how to observe, measure and record human and physical features using a range of methods. • Know how to ask and respond to questions that involve geographical changes over time. • Know how to ask and respond to questions that are more causal. • Recognise geographical issues affecting people in different places and environments. • Express and explain their opinions on geographical and environmental issues and recognise why other people may think differently. • Ask and respond to questions that involve geographical changes over time. • Use maps and charts etc to support the decision making about the location of places • Develop their views and attitudes to critically evaluate responses to local geographical issues or global issues and events.



Vocab

OS Map, six-figure grid reference Whitby, Coastal Town, North Yorkshire, physical geography, River Esk, North Sea, landmarks, trade, water cycle, transpiration, ground run off source, mouth, ox bow lake, flood plain, river channel.

Main UK rivers: River Severn, River Thames, River Trent, River Wye, Great River Ouse

Coastline, erosion, headland, bay, wave-cut platform, arches, stacks, stumps, dunes,

