

GEOGRAPHY LEARNING JOURNEY



EARLY YEARS

It may seem strange to think about your 3 or 4 year old child as a geographer. However, the years from birth to age five provide a first opportunity to see how your child interacts with their environment – and how the environment influences them. The early learning goals at EYFS aim to guide your child onto make sense of their physical world and their community by exploring, observing, and finding out about people, places, technology and the environment.

KEY STAGE 1

In Years 1 and 2, your child will be asked to begin to develop a geographical vocabulary by learning about where they live, as well as one other small area of the United Kingdom and a small area in a contrasting non-European country. They will learn about weather patterns in the United Kingdom and hot and cold areas of the world. They will use ICT, world maps, atlases and globes, simple compass directions, aerial photographs and plans, as well as simple fieldwork and observational skills. Due to our ICurriculum, we have the flexibility to choose the areas that your child will be taught over the Key Stage. Wherever possible, our teaching team find cross-curricular links in the content that they deliver which will help your child to make connections and embed their understanding of the world



LOWER KEY STAGE 2

In Years 3 to 4, the geography curriculum retains some flexibility, and builds and expands on previous knowledge. There are three focus areas:

- Locational knowledge
- Place knowledge
- Human and physical geography

Locational knowledge examines latitude, longitude and time zones. Your child will use maps to focus on Europe, North and South America, concentrating on regions, key physical / human characteristics, countries, and major cities. They will also work on locating the counties and cities of the United Kingdom and start to explore their human and physical characteristics.

Children also examine geographical similarities and differences by comparing the geography of a region of the United Kingdom with a region in a European country, and with a region in either North or South America. This is part of the place knowledge aspect of the curriculum.

For human and physical geography, your child will be taught to describe and understand key aspects of geography, for example: climate zones, rivers, mountains, volcanoes, earthquakes, the water cycle, types of settlement, economic activity and the distribution of natural resources.



I-CURRICULUM

Our fantastic I-Curriculum is the ideal vehicle through which to teach Geography to our children. A recent topic was called Beyond The Horizon. This gave Year 1's the opportunity to locate the North and South Poles on a globe, use Google Earth to find Leighton Buzzard and draw maps of the local area. The Year 3 and Year 4 pupil's learning journey went in a slightly different direction. They had plenty of opportunities to investigate changes of land uses in Anglo Saxon Britain. They also explored rivers and seas using a selection of maps and globes. They also went on an amazing school trip to an Anglo Saxon Village which enhanced their whole learning experience.