



Geography

Understanding the world we live in

At The Oaks CE Learning Federation, it is our intention that children make good or excellent progress in Geography through learning that is stimulating, challenging and, above all, engaging. As a federation of infant schools, it is our job to instil a sense of awe and wonder about the world around us and to help children make sense of what it means to be a global citizen.

Through Geography, the children will explore people, places and environments and they will notice patterns and key similarities and differences around the world. They will learn not only about Great Britain but of places outside of it, providing children with a sense of belonging and understanding of their place in the wider world.

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

A high quality geography curriculum at The Oaks CE Learning Federation will allow children to meet these curriculum aims and enable them to grow into responsible, well-informed citizens of the world.

How are Geography elements taught in the Early Years Foundation Stage?

In Early Years, children access geographical knowledge and enquiry through enhancements in their play, as well as topics such as 'Come Outside' and 'Fun at the Seaside' that build on their understanding of the world. Resources and tools provided in continuous provision allow the children to explore different representations of the world, and to try out skills such as map drawing, measuring and observation through questioning of their school environment.

<i>In the EYFS, Geography is taught through the curriculum area 'Understanding the World'.</i>	
Key Objectives EYFS	Early Learning Goal: <i>People, Cultures and Communities</i> • Describe their immediate environment using knowledge from observation, discussion, stories, non-fiction texts, and maps • Know some similarities and differences between different religious and cultural communities in this country, drawing on their experiences and what has been read in class. • Explain some similarities and differences between life in this country and life in other countries, drawing on knowledge from stories, non-fiction texts and – when appropriate – maps
Key experiences	• Developing geographical terminology through everyday talk. • Sharing stories to explore geographical themes such as environmental change, plants and animals. • Identifying our place in the world and sharing own experiences of differing cultures and communities. • Exploring artefacts, specifically photos, maps, globes. • Comparing and contrasting homes and environments. • Observing seasonal changes and the impact on plants and trees. • Field trips and daily access to the outdoors, exploring our environment and observing changes. • Role play. • Observing changes to the school and local area.
The characteristics of effective learning	Geography lends itself well to the characteristics of effective learning, covering all areas within everyday geography learning and exploration: • Playing and exploring: Investigating, experiencing, and being willing to "have a go." • Active learning: Concentrating, persisting through difficulties, and enjoying achievements. • Creating and thinking critically: Developing own ideas, making links, and choosing ways to do things.

At KS1, Geography is taught in line with the expectations outlined in the National Curriculum.

The National Curriculum requirements:

Locational knowledge

- Name and locate the world's seven continents and five oceans
- Name, locate and identify characteristics of the four countries and capital cities of the United Kingdom and its surrounding seas

Place knowledge

- Understand geographical similarities and differences through studying the human and physical geography of a small area of the United Kingdom, and of a small area in a contrasting non-European country

Human and physical geography

- 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 physical features, including: beach, cliff, coast, forest, hill, mountain, sea, ocean, river, soil, valley, vegetation, season and weather
 - key human features, including: city, town, village, factory, farm, house, office, port, harbour and shop

Geographical skills and fieldwork

Use world maps, atlases and globes to identify the United Kingdom and its countries, as well as the countries, continents and oceans studied at this key stage

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

Use aerial photographs and plan perspectives to recognise landmarks and basic human and physical features; devise a simple map; and use and construct basic symbols in a key

Use simple fieldwork and observational skills to study the geography of their school and its grounds and the key human and physical features of its surrounding environment

How is Geography taught and delivered at KS1?

The children will succeed because they are motivated by creative, cross-curricular planning. Though set topics are planned for during the year, there is a flexibility in planning to allow for local, national or global events, and children's interests and inquiries.

In KS1, Geography is taught in three blocks over the course of the year in a two-year rolling programme. Teachers have identified the key knowledge and skills identified in the National Curriculum and ensure that there is clear progression in both knowledge and skills across the year. At the beginning of each topic, children are able to convey what they know already as well as what they would like to find out. This informs the programme of study, and also ensures that lessons are relevant and take account of children's different starting points and any previous learning that needs to be revised.

Consideration is given to how children can be appropriately challenged within each lesson, how learning is enriched through excursions and fieldwork opportunities, as well as how learners will be supported in line with the school's commitment to inclusion. Teachers adapt their planning in order for all children to be able to access the lesson, through explanation of new vocabulary, effective use of adult support, variation of activities, and use of modelling, scaffolding and supporting resources. The local area is fully utilised to enrich learning, with extensive opportunities for learning outside the classroom embedded in practice.

<i>Key stage 1 cycle A</i>		
<i>Autumn 2 Geographical Skills</i>	<i>Spring 2 Land and Sea</i>	<i>Summer 2 Amazing Africa</i>
<i>Substantive knowledge</i>		
Know and name the characteristics of the local area	- Know the names of the four countries that make up the UK - Know the names of the three main seas that surround the UK - Know the names of and locate the seven continents of the world - Know the names of and locate the five oceans of the world - Know where the equator, North Pole and South Pole are on a globe - Know features of hot and cold places in the world	- Know the names of and locate the seven continents of the world - Know the names of and locate the five oceans of the world - Know the main differences between the climate and features of a place in England and that of a small place in a non-European country - Contrast a place they know well with another they are not familiar with - Understand that weather patterns are different in different parts of the world and understand how that impacts on the way of life of different people

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<i>Disciplinary Knowledge</i>		
- Understand that maps and the globe are used to locate key places around the world - Understand why it is important for all streets to have a name, including post code - Be able to follow a simple road map and recognise key landmarks, such as a church - Talk about the features in the local environment - Make a simple map after visiting a specific area, i.e. - Study aerial photographs and use locational and directional language when doing so - Use Google Earth to find features in their locality	- Understand that maps and the globe are used to locate key places around the world - Study aerial photographs and use locational and directional language when doing so - Compare regions that are very hot with ones that are very cold	- Understand that maps and the globe are used to locate key places around the world - Using maps, photographs and videos to help make comparisons

<i>Key stage 1 cycle B</i>		
<i>Autumn 2 Bright Lights, Big City</i>	<i>Spring 2 United Kingdom</i>	<i>Summer 2 Coast to Coast</i>
<i>Substantive knowledge</i>		
- Know the name of the nearest town or city - Know and name the characteristics of the local area - Know some of the characteristics associated with a coastal place in comparison to where they live - Know the main differences between city, town and village - Know and identify the physical features of the local area - Know and identify human features of the local area	- Know the names of the four countries that make up the UK - Know the names of the three main seas that surround the UK - Know the name of and locate the four capital cities of England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland - Know the name of the nearest town or city - Know which is N, E, S and W on a compass	- Know the names of the four countries that make up the UK - Know the names of the three main seas that surround the UK - Know some of the characteristics associated with a coastal place in comparison to where they live - Know the key physical and human features of a coastal place

Know some of the advantages and disadvantages of living in a city or village		Know and identify the following physical features: mountain, lake, island, valley, river, cliff, forest and beach
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<i>Disciplinary Knowledge</i>		
- Understand that maps and the globe are used to locate key places around the world - Contrast a place they know well with another they are not familiar with, using maps, photographs and videos to help make comparisons - Be able to follow a simple road map and recognise key landmarks, such as a church - Talk about the features in the local environment - Observe and record information about the local area, i.e. types of shops, bus stops etc. - Locate the nearest town or city on map of the UK	- Understand that maps and the globe are used to locate key places around the world - Locate a number of cities on a map of the UK	- Be able to follow a simple road map and recognise key landmarks, such as a church - Talk about the features in the local environment