



## Whole School Developing Map Skills

Maps have long been a source of interest and intrigue. Early maps were largely pictorial and often inaccurate. Over the years, maps have become more and more accurate, with the use of satellite imagery. Although maps are now widely available online, paper maps are still highly valued. A secure understanding of maps underpins all areas of the geography curriculum. This documents teaches children the skills so that they can apply them in their geography programme of study.

The earlier units can be used by older pupils too, to ensure they have the baseline knowledge necessary for more advanced map reading activities. Opportunities for retrieval of knowledge from previous units at the start of each unit should be used.

### • What is Geography?

Geography is the study of places and the relationships of people and their environment. Geography seeks to understand where things are found, why they are there, and how they develop and change over time.

**Human geography:** Use geographical vocabulary to refer to features on a map or plan (city, town, village, factory, farm, house, port, harbour, shop).

**Physical geography:** Use geographical vocabulary to refer to features on a map (beach, cliff, coast, forest, hill, mountain, sea, ocean, river, soil, valley, vegetation).

### • Why is it important that we learn about Geography?

• Geography encourages us to become active citizens who are engaged with the world around them.

• By learning about different cultures, societies, and environments, we are better equipped to understand human's impact on the planet and tackle global issues, such as climate change, poverty, and inequality.

### • Locational knowledge:

KS1: name and locate the world's seven continents and five oceans, name, locate and identify characteristics of Jersey, its parishes and main settlements, the other Channel Islands and the surrounding waters.

KS2: Locate the world's countries using maps, concentrating on environmental regions, key physical and human characteristics, countries, and major cities. Name and locate countries and cities of the UK, geographical regions and key human and physical characteristics.

### • Place knowledge:

KS1: understand geographical similarities and differences through studying the human and physical geography of Jersey, and of a small area in a contrasting country.

KS2: understand geographical similarities and differences through the study of human and physical geography of Jersey, a region of the United Kingdom, a region in a European country, and a region within one other continent

### • Geographical skills and fieldwork: Interpret a range of sources of geographical information, including maps, diagrams, globes, aerial photographs. Communicate geographical information in a variety of ways, including through maps.

KS1: use world maps, atlases and globes to identify Jersey and the Channel Islands together with their position in relation to the United Kingdom and its countries, France, and 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 on a map. Devise a simple map, and use and construct basic symbols in a key.

KS2: Name and locate countries and cities of the United Kingdom. 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 Jersey, the Channel Islands, the United Kingdom and the wider world.

## Getting to know the British Isles

Year 3

The unit starts by giving pupils a sense of where the school is located within the wider world through the use of a map and globe. They use eight compass points to describe the location of capital cities within the British Isles. They learn the difference between the boundaries of Great Britain, the British Isles and the United Kingdom. Pupils develop knowledge of England, Scotland, Wales and Ireland through hands-on activities.

#### Locational Knowledge

- Defining The British Isles
- Great Britain
- The United Kingdom and learning which countries make up the British Isles.
- Locating capital cities on a map of the UK and on a globe.
- Google Earth to be used in conjunction with globes and maps to zoom in from a '3D globe' to a '2D map' of the UK

#### Place Knowledge

- Capital Cities - London, Edinburgh, Cardiff, Belfast, Dublin

#### Human and Physical Geography

- Human - cities and their location, directions, political boundaries.
- Physical - mountains, rivers, seas

#### Geographical Skills and Fieldwork

- Using eight compass points to give directions.
- Locating places on maps

#### Key questions and ideas:

Learning objective: Can I create a map of the British Isles?

#### Key Questions

- How can we use maps and globes to develop our knowledge of the British Isles?
- Which countries make up the British Isles?
- What are their capital cities and where are these located?
- How can we describe the location of different parts of the British Isles?

#### Key ideas

- Great Britain, the United Kingdom and the British Isles cannot be used interchangeably, as they include different land masses.
- The UK's capital cities are: England (London), Scotland (Edinburgh), Wales (Cardiff) and Northern Ireland (Belfast). England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland are the countries within the United Kingdom

#### Notes for the teacher:

Play geography hangman to support pupils' geographical vocabulary.

Using a large sized map of the British Isles, the pupils label the different countries and their capital cities. They then use eight compass points to describe the location of each of these cities. Pupils then transfer this information to their own blank maps of the British Isles.

Play the online MapZone game to practice locating English counties in the correct place as a jigsaw.

#### Assessment:

- How well can children use compass points to give directions?
- How well can they transfer information to their own map?