Key Stage 1: Geography | Title of Topic: Where do we live? | Term: Autumn 2026

National Curriculum: Geography

Pupils should develop knowledge about the world, the United Kingdom and their locality. They should understand basic subject-specific vocabulary relating to human and physical geography and begin to use geographical skills, including first-hand observation, to enhance their locational awareness.

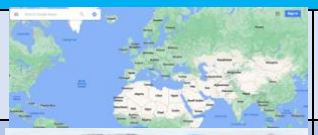
Human and Physical Geography
Use basic geographical vocabulary to refer to:

- 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.

Place knowledge
Understand geographical similarities and differences through studying the human and physical geography of a small area of the United Kingdom.

Geographical skills and fieldwork
Use simple compass directions (North, South, East and West) and locational and directional language. Use aerial photographs and plan perspectives to recognise landmarks and basic human and physical features.

Equipment and Resources



Google Maps/ Atlases

The International Space Station

Compass

Globe

Aerial Photographs

Key Questions

Where do we live?

What is a feature?

What is an aerial photograph?

Vocabulary

City - A large settlement with millions of people living in it.
Country - A land or nation with its own government.
Land - The Earth's surface not covered in water.
Map - A picture of a place, drawn from above.
Place - A particular location.
Postcard - A special piece of paper with a picture of a place you have visited and a message for someone.
Town - A built-up area larger than a village.
Village - A group of houses and buildings in a rural area
Aerial photograph - A photograph taken from the air.
Feature - An important, large object that generally stays in one place, cannot be easily moved and is represented on a map.
House - A building that family or friends live in with different rooms for sleeping, eating and spending time in.
Museum - A building that has interesting objects to look at.
Pond - A hole filled with water, usually in a green space.
Post office - A place that sends letters and parcels.
River - A long, moving stream of water that starts in the mountains and flows to the sea.
Roundabout - A big circle in a road that helps cars safely take turns and pick a direction.
Shop - A building where you can buy things.
Directional language - Words that tell you where something is located in relation to something else.
Atlas - A book of maps.
Locate - To find the position of something.
School grounds - The area inside the school walls or fence.
Position - A way to describe the place where something is.

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Key Learning:	
1	**Where do we live?** Children will learn to identify the countries within the United Kingdom. They will learn that the UK stands for the United Kingdom enabling them to point to each country in the UK on a map when prompted. The children will also learn to identify which country in the UK they live in.
2	**What is a feature?** Children will learn to identify features in the school grounds. They will begin naming some features and be able to recall that a feature is a place or thing that generally stays in the same place. They will also take a photograph of a feature in their school grounds.
3	**What is a map?** Children will use directional language to describe the location of features. They will learn that maps give us information about a place and that we can describe where features are on a map using directional language.
4	**What is an aerial photograph?** Children will learn to recognise features from an aerial perspective. They will learn that an aerial photograph is taken from above and practise identifying features in aerial photographs. They will then plot features on a map of the school grounds.
5	**How are features shown on a map?** Children will learn to recognise the purpose of symbols on a map. They will discover that symbols are used on maps to show features. They will then practise using symbols to show features and draw a basic map using symbols.
6	**How do places in school make us feel?** The children will learn to recognise how different places on the school grounds make me feel. They will ask and answer questions about features on the school grounds and draw symbols to show the places I have visited in school. They will then tell the class how the places they have visited made them feel.