

Newton Leys Primary School
Geography Curriculum Statement



INTENT

Why do we teach this?

We want our Geography Curriculum to inspire pupils with a curiosity and fascination about the world around them. At Newton Leys we aim to equip pupils with knowledge about diverse places, people and natural and human environments, together with an understanding of the formation and use of landscapes and environments. We are committed to providing children with opportunities to investigate and make enquiries about their local area so they can develop a real sense of who they are, make comparisons with other areas and identify what makes their local area unique and special to them.

IMPLEMENTATION

What do we teach? What does this look like?

At Newton Leys Primary School, we use the Cornerstones Curriculum to deliver our Geography topics. In each year group, the children will be taught key geographical skills and concepts linked to each Cornerstones Topic. Each Key Stage has a Progression of Skills Geography Pack, which details the key skills and concepts that must be taught in each year group. These key skills have been divided under the following headings.

Locational Knowledge	Place Knowledge	Human and Physical Geography	Geography Skills and Fieldwork
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Early Years

Geography is taught in Early Years Foundation Stage as an integral part of the topic work through child initiated and adult led activities. Pupils are given the opportunity to begin to gain a wider experience of the world around them, to help them to think and make connections between ideas. Pupils learn about seasons, the weather, features in the local area and the buildings that surround them.

Key Stage One

In Key Stage 1 pupils develop knowledge about the world, the United Kingdom and their locality. They learn 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. Pupils should be taught to:

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

Key Stage 2

Pupils extend their knowledge and understanding beyond the local area to include the United Kingdom and Europe, North and South America. This will include the location and characteristics of a range of the world's most significant human and physical features. They should develop their use of geographical knowledge, understanding and skills to enhance their locational and place knowledge. Pupils should be taught to:

Locational knowledge

- locate the world's countries, using maps to focus on Europe (including the location of Russia) and North and South America, concentrating on their environmental regions, key physical and human characteristics, countries, and major cities
- name and locate counties and cities of the United Kingdom, geographical regions and their identifying human and physical characteristics, key topographical features (including hills, mountains, coasts and rivers), and land-use patterns; and understand how some of these aspects have changed over time
- identify the position and significance of latitude, longitude, Equator, Northern Hemisphere, Southern Hemisphere, the Tropics of Cancer and Capricorn, Arctic and Antarctic Circle, the Prime/Greenwich Meridian and time zones (including day and night)

Place knowledge

- understand geographical similarities and differences through the study of human and physical geography of a region of the United Kingdom, a region in a European country, and a region within North or South America

Human and physical geography

- describe and understand key aspects of:
 - physical geography, including: climate zones, biomes and vegetation belts, rivers, mountains, volcanoes and earthquakes, and the water cycle
 - human geography, including: types of settlement and land use, economic activity including trade links, and the distribution of natural resources including energy, food, minerals and water

Geographical skills and fieldwork

- use maps, atlases, globes and digital/computer mapping to locate countries and describe features studied
- 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 the United Kingdom and the wider world
- 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 and graphs, and digital technologies.

Geography Curriculum Overview

Year Group	Autumn Term 1	Autumn Term 2	Spring Term 1	Spring Term 2	Summer Term 1	Summer Term 2
Year 1	Bright Lights, Big City	Moon Zoom!	Splendid Skies	Dinosaur Planet	Enchanted Woodland	Rio de Vida
Year 2	Land Ahoy	Towers, Tunnels and Turrets	Street Detectives	Muck, Mess and Mixtures	The Scented Garden	Wriggle and crawl
Year 3	Mighty Metals	Gods and Mortals	Flow	Tremors	Predator	Tribal Tales
Year 4	Burps, Bottoms, Bile	Blue Abyss	I am Warrior	Traders and Raiders	Potions	Road Trip USA
Year 5	Pharaohs	Stargazers	Off with her head	Scream Machine	Alchemy Island	Allotment
Year 6	Blood Heart	Revolution	Frozen Kingdom	Hola Mexico!	A Child's War	Darwin's Delight

Extra-Curricular Geography Opportunities

All geography lessons are tailored to the needs of the children in the class. The teachers deliver lessons pitched at an appropriate level for all before modelling activities as well as providing differentiated tasks to support less able pupils. We strive to increase the Cultural Capital for all children. We therefore try to include as many geographical visits or invite visitors into school who can share their knowledge and increase their cultural capital and love for Geography. In KS2 the children are given the opportunity to go away on a residential visit. Our School council and Eco Committee are actively involved in promoting environmental issues.

British values in Geography

At Newton Leys School we aim to promote British values through Geography as it encourages pupils to explore how places have been changed by the contexts and processes that have shaped them. It helps them to understand the complex ways in which communities and societies are linked and to appreciate the diversity of people's backgrounds. Geography also helps pupils to understand society better. Appreciating diversity encourages positive relationships and shared values. It promotes tolerance and partnership, within local and wider communities.

Impact

What will this look like?

At Newton Leys Primary School, we hope that our Geography Curriculum will encourage children to learn to make links and form a life- long love of investigating, enquiry and questioning. We want to ensure that our children are equipped with the geographical skills and knowledge that will enable them to be ready for the curriculum at Key Stage 3 and for life as an adult in the wider world. We want the children to have thoroughly enjoyed learning about geography, therefore encouraging them to undertake new life experiences now and in the future.

By the time children leave Newton Leys Primary School they will:

- Have an excellent knowledge of where places are and what they are like.
- Have an excellent understanding of the ways in which places are interdependent and interconnected and how much human and physical environments are interrelated.
- Have an extensive base of geographical knowledge and vocabulary.
- Have the ability to reach clear conclusions and develop a reasoned argument to explain findings.
- Have a passion for and commitment to the subject, and a real sense of curiosity to find out about the world and the people who live there.
- Have the ability to express well-balanced opinions, rooted in very good knowledge and understanding about current and contemporary issues in society and the environment.