


Year 2 Geography Curriculum

	<h2 style="margin: 0;">Autumn</h2>
Project	Comparing Life on a Small Island - Countries of the Uk Capital Cities and Seas
Substantive concepts	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Geographical Knowledge of the UK: Learning about the four countries of the UK (England, Scotland, Wales, and Northern Ireland), their capital cities (London, Edinburgh, Cardiff, and Belfast), and how they are connected by land and water. 2. Seas Surrounding the UK: Understanding the seas that surround the UK, such as the North Sea, English Channel, Irish Sea, and Celtic Sea, and their significance to the UK's geography and history. 3. Comparing the UK with a Fictional Island: Using a fictional island to compare human and physical features (e.g., landmarks, climate, geography) of the UK with a smaller, imagined place. 4. Position on the Globe: Recognizing the position of the UK in relation to the continents and oceans of the world and developing a sense of its global location. <p>Human and Physical Features: Exploring both the human (e.g., landmarks, cities) and physical features (e.g., rivers, mountains, seas) of the UK and comparing them with those of a fictional island.</p>
Key vocab	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Country • Capital city • Continent • Ocean • Sea • North Sea • English Channel • Irish Sea • Celtic Sea • England • Scotland • Wales • Northern Ireland • London • Edinburgh • Cardiff • Belfast • Map • Globe • Atlas • Landmark • Physical features

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- Human features
- Fictional island
- Coastline
- Island

Position

Countries of the UK

- The **United Kingdom (UK)** consists of **four countries**:
 - **England**
 - **Scotland**
 - **Wales**
 - **Northern Ireland**
- Each of these countries has its **capital city**:
 - **London** (England)
 - **Edinburgh** (Scotland)
 - **Cardiff** (Wales)
 - **Belfast** (Northern Ireland)

Surrounding Seas

- The UK is an **island** surrounded by different seas:
 - The **North Sea** lies to the east of the UK.
 - The **English Channel** separates the UK from France, to the south.
 - The **Irish Sea** lies between the UK and the Republic of Ireland.
 - The **Celtic Sea** lies to the southwest of the UK.

Position in the World

- The UK is part of the continent of **Europe** and is located in the **northern hemisphere**, west of mainland Europe.
- It is surrounded by **oceans and seas**, with the Atlantic **Ocean** to the west and the **North Sea** to the east.

Comparing with a Fictional Island

• The class will also study a **fictional small island**. The island will be compared in terms of its **size, location, climate, and features** with the UK. By comparing the UK with this smaller island, students will explore how the size and geographical features of a place affect life on the island (e.g., fewer resources, smaller settlements, different kinds of transport).

Core substantive knowledge (what can they tell you?
Facts/people/places)

Disciplinary concepts (how does a geographer think/work?)

Geographical Enquiry

Geographers use different ways of thinking and working to explore the world. These skills help children understand places better.

- **Observing**: Geographers observe maps, globes, and photos to understand the world. Children will observe maps of the UK and the fictional island,

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identifying features such as seas, coastlines, countries, and capital cities.

- **Questioning:** Geographers ask questions to investigate places. Questions might include:
 - "How many countries make up the UK?"
 - "What seas surround the UK?"
 - "What features would you find on a small island?"
 - "How are the countries of the UK connected to one another?"
- **Comparing:** Geographers compare places to find similarities and differences. Children will compare the physical and human features of the UK with a fictional island. For example, they might compare the UK's **landmarks** and **climate** with those of the fictional island.
- **Positioning:** Geographers use maps and globes to locate places and understand where they are in relation to each other. Children will learn to use **atlases**, **world maps**, and **globes** to locate:
 - The countries of the UK.
 - The capital cities of the UK.
 - The seas that surround the UK.

The position of the UK in relation to **continents** and **oceans**.


Geographical Skills and Concepts in Practice

1. **Observing:**
 - **Observe maps** of the UK and the fictional island to identify the countries, seas, and landmarks.
 - Look at **aerial photographs** of the UK, focusing on physical features like rivers, mountains, and coastlines.
2. **Questioning:**
 - Encourage students to ask questions about the features they see on maps, such as:
 - "What is the name of the sea that separates the UK from France?"
 - "Which capital city is located in England?"
 - "What do you think life might be like on a small island compared to the UK?"
3. **Comparing:**
 - Compare the **climate** of the UK and the fictional island. Discuss how the size of an island might influence the weather patterns.
 - Compare **landmarks** (e.g., Big Ben, Edinburgh Castle) in the UK with the **fictional landmarks** on the island.
 - Compare the **geographical features** of the UK and the island, looking at the number of **coasts**, **rivers**, and **mountains** each has.
4. **Positioning:**
 - Use a **globe** or **world map** to locate the UK and its position in relation to other continents and oceans.

Practice **locating the countries** of the UK and their **capital cities** on a map.

Geographical enquiry -
observing/questioning/com
paring/chronology etc)

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	<h2>Spring</h2>
Project	What a Wonderful World - Continents and Oceans
Substantive concepts	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Continents and Oceans: Understanding that the world is made up of seven continents and five oceans, and being able to locate them on maps and globes.2. The Earth's Shape: Learning that the Earth is spherical (round like a ball) and how this affects our understanding of geography, including the location of the equator, North Pole, and South Pole.3. Global Travel: Exploring the idea of travel and the journey from one continent or ocean to another. Understanding how people travel between places, what types of transportation are used, and how distances vary across the world.4. Climates: Identifying and understanding hot and cold climates around the world, and how these climates are related to the Earth's position (in relation to the equator and the poles).<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Aerial Photographs: Using aerial photographs to identify human and physical features in different parts of the world, such as mountains, rivers, forests, cities, and deserts.
Key vocab	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Continent● Ocean● Equator● North Pole● South Pole● Globe● Map● Spherical● Aerial photograph● Climate● Hot climate● Cold climate● Tropics● Desert● Rainforest● Ocean currents● Latitude● Longitude● Country● City● Journey

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Core substantive
knowledge (what can they
tell you?
Facts/people/places)

Seven Continents

- The Earth is made up of **seven continents**:
 - Africa
 - Antarctica
 - Asia
 - Australia
 - Europe
 - North America
 - South America
- The continents vary in size, climate, population, and physical features. For example, **Africa** is known for its **deserts** and **rainforests**, while **Antarctica** is mostly ice and **freezing cold**.

Five Oceans

- There are **five oceans** on Earth:
 - Atlantic Ocean
 - Pacific Ocean
 - Indian Ocean
 - Southern Ocean
 - Arctic Ocean
- Oceans are large bodies of **saltwater** that surround the continents and are vital for regulating the Earth's climate and supporting marine life.

The Shape of the Earth

- The Earth is **spherical**, meaning it is round like a ball, not flat. This shape affects the distribution of **daylight** and **climate** around the world.

The Equator, North Pole, and South Pole

- The **equator** is an **imaginary line** that divides the Earth into the Northern and Southern Hemispheres. Areas close to the equator are usually **hot** and tropical, while those further from it are colder.
- The **North Pole** and **South Pole** are at the very top and bottom of the Earth, where it is extremely cold.


Hot and Cold Climates

- **Hot climates** are generally found close to the equator, where the sun is strongest. These areas often include **rainforests** and **deserts**.
- **Cold climates** are found near the poles and at high altitudes. These areas often have **snow**, **ice**, and limited vegetation.

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	<p>Aerial Photographs</p> <p>Aerial photographs allow us to view large areas of land from above and can help us identify physical features like mountains, rivers, and forests, as well as human features like cities, roads, and farms.</p>
<p>Disciplinary concepts (how does a geographer think/work?)</p>	<p>Geographical Enquiry</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Observing: Geographers observe different parts of the world through maps, globes, and photographs. In this topic, children will look at different maps, including world maps, and aerial photographs to understand where continents and oceans are located.● Questioning: Geographers ask questions to deepen their understanding of the world. For example:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ “What makes a continent different from an ocean?”○ “Where do we find hot and cold climates?”○ “How does the Earth’s round shape affect the climate?”○ “How does travel between continents differ?”● Comparing: Geographers compare different areas of the world. For example, children will compare the climates of the tropical regions near the equator with the cold regions near the poles, or compare the characteristics of the continents. <p>Mapping: Geographers use maps and globes to help understand the world. Children will use maps and globes to locate continents and oceans, and also understand concepts like latitude and longitude.</p>
<p>Geographical enquiry - observing/questioning/comparing/chronology etc)</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Observing:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Children will look at world maps, globes, and aerial photographs to locate the seven continents and five oceans.○ Observing how different climates are depicted on maps and identifying regions near the equator that are typically hot and near the poles that are cold.2. Questioning:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ “What do you notice about the places that are near the equator? What is the climate like there?”○ “How are the North Pole and South Pole different from the rest of the world in terms of climate?”○ “How do the climates of the UK and Australia differ?”3. Comparing:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Compare the climates of the tropical areas around the equator with the cold areas near the poles, discussing how location affects temperature.○ Compare the physical features of the continents, for example, the deserts of Africa vs. the rainforests of South America.○ Compare human life in different continents, such as the differences in urban life in Europe vs. rural life in Australia.4. Mapping:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Use maps and globes to locate the equator, North Pole, and South Pole.○ Identify and label the seven continents and five oceans on a map.○ Create a map of the world that highlights areas with hot climates (near the equator) and cold climates (near the poles).○

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	<h2>Summer</h2>
Project	Sensational Safari
Substantive concepts	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Physical Features: Learning about Kenya's diverse landscapes, including savannahs, mountains, and rivers, and how these physical features shape life in Kenya. 2. Human Features: Understanding the human aspects of Kenya, such as its culture, traditions, and settlements, and comparing them to life in the UK. 3. Wildlife: Exploring Kenya's famous wildlife and its importance to the country, including animals found on safari, such as lions, elephants, and giraffes. 4. Climate and Weather: Understanding Kenya's climate, how it differs from the UK, and how the geography of Kenya influences its weather patterns and ecosystems. <p>Comparing Kenya and the UK: Comparing and contrasting Kenya with the UK in terms of geography, climate, culture, and wildlife.</p>
Key vocab	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kenya • Safari • Savannah • Mountains • Rivers • Elephants • Lions • Giraffes • Wildlife • Climate • Culture • Traditions • Capital city (Nairobi) • Equator • Tropics • Desert • Rainforest • Tundra • Continent (Africa) • Map • Atlas • Globe • Settlement • Farming
Core substantive knowledge (what can they tell you? Facts/people/places)	<p>Kenya</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kenya is a country in East Africa, located on the equator, which influences its hot climate and unique ecosystems.

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- The capital city of Kenya is Nairobi. Nairobi is a large, modern city that serves as Kenya's cultural and economic hub.
- Kenya is home to a range of diverse landscapes and climates, including:
 - Savannahs: Vast, grassy plains with scattered trees, home to much of the country's wildlife.
 - Mountains: The Mount Kenya mountain range, which is the second-highest in Africa, has both tropical and alpine climates.
 - Rivers and lakes: Including Lake Victoria, one of the largest lakes in Africa.
 - Deserts: The northern part of Kenya is dry and arid.
- Wildlife: Kenya is known for its incredible wildlife, which can be seen on safaris. Famous animals include:
 - Lions, elephants, giraffes, zebras, and cheetahs.
- Kenya's culture is diverse, with many different ethnic groups, each with its own traditions and languages.

Comparison with the UK

- Geography: Kenya is located on the equator, giving it a tropical climate. The UK, on the other hand, has a temperate climate with four distinct seasons.
- Wildlife: While the UK has different animals such as foxes, rabbits, and deer, Kenya is famous for its larger wild animals like lions, elephants, and giraffes.

Culture: The UK has a rich history and a variety of traditions, but Kenya's culture is influenced by its diverse ethnic groups and their local customs, including tribal dances, traditional music, and safaris.

Disciplinary concepts
(how does a geographer
think/work?)

Geographical Enquiry

- **Observing:** Geographers observe the physical and human features of places. In this topic, children will observe maps, globes, and photographs of Kenya to locate physical features such as mountains, rivers, and savannahs.
- **Questioning:** Geographers ask questions to explore and understand the world. For example:
 - "What kind of wildlife lives in Kenya, and how is it different from the UK?"
 - "What is the climate like in Kenya compared to the UK?"
 - "How do the physical features of Kenya shape the way people live and farm there?"
- **Comparing:** Geographers compare different places to understand their similarities and differences. For example, children will compare the landscapes, wildlife, and climates of Kenya with those of the UK.

Mapping: Geographers use maps and globes to locate and understand different places. In this topic, children will use maps and globes to locate Kenya, the equator, and the key geographical features of both Kenya and the UK.

Geographical enquiry -
observing/questioning/com
paring/chronology etc)

Geographical Skills and Concepts in Practice

1. **Observing:**
 - Children will observe a range of maps, globes, and aerial photographs of Kenya. They will look for features like the savannah, mountains, rivers, and wildlife.
 - Children will observe how Kenya's location near the equator affects its climate and wildlife.
2. **Questioning:**
 - "What makes Kenya's climate different from the UK's climate?"
 - "Why do we see lions, elephants, and giraffes in Kenya but not in the UK?"
 - "How do the people of Kenya adapt to their environment?"
3. **Comparing:**

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- Compare the physical features of Kenya (savannah, mountains, rivers) with the UK (hills, forests, lakes).
- Compare the wildlife of Kenya (elephants, lions, giraffes) with that of the UK (foxes, rabbits, deer).
- Compare the climates of Kenya and the UK, discussing the impact of the equator on Kenya's tropical climate.

4. Mapping:

- Use **maps** and **atlases** to locate **Kenya** and identify its major physical features, such as the **savannah**, **Mount Kenya**, and **Lake Victoria**.
- Locate the **UK** and compare its geographical location to Kenya, noting differences in **climate** and **environment**.
- Understand and identify the **equator** on a map, explaining how it divides the Earth into the Northern and Southern Hemispheres and its significance to climate.