

Geography

EYFS Key Vocabulary

Key vocabulary words	Definition
Map	A drawing of a particular area such as a city, country, or continent, showing its main features as they would appear if looked at from above
World	The planet that we live on
Atlas	A book of maps
Globe	A ball-shaped object with a map of the world on it, usually fixed on a stand
Autumn	The season after Summer and before Winter
Winter	The season after Autumn and before Spring
Spring	The season after Winter and before Summer
Summer	The season after Spring and before Autumn
Up	Towards a higher place of position
Down	Below a place or position
Left	Relating to a side of the human body
Right	Relating to a side of the human body
Farm	An area of land, together with the buildings on it, that is used for growing crops or raising animals, usually in order to sell them
House	A building in which people live, usually the people belonging to one family

Weather	The condition of the atmosphere in one area at a particular time, e.g. if it is raining, hot or windy
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KS1 Key vocabulary

Year 1 Our local area

Key vocabulary words	Definition
Place	A geographical point, such as a town, city, etc
Town	A densely populated urban area, typically smaller than a city and larger than a village, having some local powers of government and a fixed boundary
Locate	To find out where something or someone is
Environment	External conditions or surroundings, especially those in which people live or work
Map	A drawing of a particular area such as a city, country, or continent, showing its main features as they would appear if looked at from above
Atlas	A book of maps
Human features	Human geography looks at the impact and behaviour of people and how they relate to the physical world
Physical features	Physical geography looks at the natural processes of the Earth, such as climate and plate tectonics
United Kingdom (UK)	England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland; officially the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
Vegetation	Plants, trees and flowers

Factory	A large building where machines are used to make large quantities of goods
House	A building in which people live, usually the people belonging to one family
Office	A room or a part of a building where people work sitting at desks
Shop	A building or part of a building where things are sold
Compass	An instrument that you use for finding directions. It has a dial and a magnetic needle that always points to the north
North	The direction that is on your left when you are looking towards the direction where the sun rises
South	The direction that is on your right when you are looking towards the direction where the sun rises
East	The direction that you look towards in the morning in order to see the sun rise
West	The direction that you look towards in the evening in order to see the sun set
Construct	To build or make something, e.g. a building, road or machine
Symbol	Something that represents or stands for something else, usually by convention or association, especially a material object used to represent something abstract
Grid reference	A method of locating a point on a map or plan by a number referring to the lines of a grid drawn upon the map or plan and to subdivisions of the space between the lines

Year 1 Weather

Key vocabulary words	Definition
Investigate	To inquire into (a situation or problem, especially a crime or death) thoroughly; examine systematically, especially in order to discover the truth
Seasonal	Occurring at a certain season or certain seasons of the year
Daily	Happening every day
Weather	The condition of the atmosphere in one area at a particular time, e.g. if it is raining, hot or windy
Hot	Having a high temperature
Cold	Having a low temperature
Globe	A ball-shaped object with a map of the world on it, usually fixed on a stand
World	The planet that we live on
Equator	An imaginary line around the middle of the Earth at an equal distance from the North Pole and the South Pole
North Pole	The place on the surface of the Earth that is furthest towards the north
South Pole	The place on the surface of the Earth that is furthest towards the south
Satellites	Objects sent into space. Some of them take photographs of the Earth.

Year 1 Seaside

Key vocabulary words	Definition
Place	A geographical point, such as a town, city, etc
Coastal	Relating to things that are in the sea or on the land near a coast
Surrounding	The conditions, scenery, etc, around a person, place or thing; environment
Environment	External conditions or surroundings, especially those in which people live or work
Characteristic	A distinguishing quality, attribute, or trait
Human features	Human geography looks at the impact and behaviour of people and how they relate to the physical world
Physical features	Physical geography looks at the natural processes of the Earth, such as climate and plate tectonics
United Kingdom (UK)	England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland; officially the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
Beach	An area of sand or stones beside the sea
Coast	An area of land that is next to the sea
Hill	An area of land that is higher than the land that surrounds it
Mountain	A very high area of land with steep sides
River	A large amount of fresh water flowing continuously in a long line across the land

Soil	The substance on the surface of the Earth in which plants grow
Valley	A low stretch of land between hills, especially one that has a river flowing through it.

Year 2 Famous Landmarks

Key vocabulary words	Definition
Place	A geographical point, such as a town, city, etc
investigate	To inquire into (a situation or problem, especially a crime or death) thoroughly; examine systematically, especially in order to discover the truth
Pertinent	Relating to the matter at hand; relevant
City	A large town
Surrounding	The conditions, scenery, etc, around a person, place or thing; environment
Locate	To find out where something or someone is
Environment	External conditions or surroundings, especially those in which people live or work
Characteristic	A distinguishing quality, attribute, or trait
Map	A drawing of a particular area such as a city, country, or continent, showing its main features as they would appear if looked at from above
Human features	Human geography looks at the impact and behaviour of people and how they relate to the physical world
Physical features	Physical geography looks at the natural processes of the Earth, such as climate and plate tectonics
United Kingdom	England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland; officially the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

(UK)	
Compass	An instrument that you use for finding directions. It has a dial and a magnetic needle that always points to the north
North	The direction that is on your left when you are looking towards the direction where the sun rises
South	The direction that is on your right when you are looking towards the direction where the sun rises
East	The direction that you look towards in the morning in order to see the sun rise
West	The direction that you look towards in the evening in order to see the sun set
Symbol	Something that represents or stands for something else, usually by convention or association, especially a material object used to represent something abstract
Grid reference	A method of locating a point on a map or plan by a number referring to the lines of a grid drawn upon the map or plan and to subdivisions of the space between the lines
Satellites	Objects sent into space. Some of them take photographs of the Earth.

Year 2 Australia

Key vocabulary words	Definition
Place	A geographical point, such as a town, city, etc
investigate	To inquire into (a situation or problem, especially a crime or death) thoroughly; examine systematically, especially in order to discover the truth
Continent	A very large area of land, such as Africa or Asia, that consists of several countries
Surrounding	The conditions, scenery, etc, around a person, place or thing; environment

Locate	To find out where something or someone is
Environment	External conditions or surroundings, especially those in which people live or work
Characteristic	A distinguishing quality, attribute, or trait
Map	A drawing of a particular area such as a city, country, or continent, showing its main features as they would appear if looked at from above
World	The planet that we live on
Atlas	A book of maps
Globe	A ball-shaped object with a map of the world on it, usually fixed on a stand
Countries	Territories distinguished by its people, culture, language, geography, etc
Ocean	One of the five very large areas of sea on the Earth's surface
Human features	Human geography looks at the impact and behaviour of people and how they relate to the physical world
Physical features	Physical geography looks at the natural processes of the Earth, such as climate and plate tectonics

Year 2 Magical Mapping

Key vocabulary words	Definition
Place	A geographical point, such as a town, city, etc
Continent	A very large area of land, such as Africa or Asia, that consists of several countries

Locate	To find out where something or someone is
Map	A drawing of a particular area such as a city, country, or continent, showing its main features as they would appear if looked at from above
World	The planet that we live on
Atlas	A book of maps
Globe	A ball-shaped object with a map of the world on it, usually fixed on a stand
Countries	Territories distinguished by its people, culture, language, geography, etc
Ocean	One of the five very large areas of sea on the Earth's surface
Human features	Human geography looks at the impact and behaviour of people and how they relate to the physical world
Physical features	Physical geography looks at the natural processes of the Earth, such as climate and plate tectonics
United Kingdom (UK)	England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland; officially the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
Compass	An instrument that you use for finding directions. It has a dial and a magnetic needle that always points to the north
North	The direction that is on your left when you are looking towards the direction where the sun rises
South	The direction that is on your right when you are looking towards the direction where the sun rises
East	The direction that you look towards in the morning in order to see the sun rise
West	The direction that you look towards in the evening in order to see the sun set
Symbol	Something that represents or stands for something else, usually by convention or association, especially a material object used to represent something abstract
Grid reference	A method of locating a point on a map or plan by a number referring to the lines of a grid drawn upon the map or

	plan and to subdivisions of the space between the lines
Equator	An imaginary line around the middle of the Earth at an equal distance from the North Pole and the South Pole
North Pole	The place on the surface of the Earth that is furthest towards the north
South Pole	The place on the surface of the Earth that is furthest towards the south
Satellites	Objects sent into space. Some of them take photographs of the Earth.

Lower Key Stage 2 Key vocabulary

Year 3 Volcanoes and Earthquakes

Key vocabulary words	Definition
Volcano	Mountains from which lava, gas, steam and ash from inside the Earth sometimes burst
Mantle	Below the crust is the mantle which is made of hot liquid rock called magma.
Crust	The rock that covers the entire centre of the Earth
Earthquake	Shaking of the ground caused by movement of the Earth's crust
Erupt	To start suddenly or violently with great force
Dormant	Not active, but capable of becoming active in the future
Collision	When one moving object hits another
Magnitude	The size or scale of something

Meteoric	Sudden and extremely strong
Intensity	Magnitude
Tsunami	A very large wave, caused by an earthquake
Water cycle	The circulation of the Earth's water: water evaporates from the sea into the atmosphere, where it condenses and falls as rain or snow, returning to the sea by rivers or returning to the atmosphere by evaporation

Year 3 Our local area

Key vocabulary words	Definition
Compass	An instrument that you use for finding directions. It has a dial and a magnetic needle that always points to the north
Atlas	A book of maps
Symbol	Something that represents or stands for something else, usually by convention or association, especially a material object used to represent something abstract
North	The direction that is on your left when you are looking towards the direction where the sun rises
South	The direction that is on your right when you are looking towards the direction where the sun rises
East	The direction that you look towards in the morning in order to see the sun rise
West	The direction that you look towards in the evening in order to see the sun set
Human features	Human geography looks at the impact and behaviour of people and how they relate to the physical world
Physical	Physical geography looks at the natural processes of the Earth, such as climate and plate tectonics

features	
Watercourse	A channel of flowing water
Tributaries	Smaller streams that join a river
Source	The start of a river
Channel	The course of a river
River bed	The bottom of a river
Reaches	Parts of a river
Meanders	Bends in a river
Deltas	Where a river splits and spreads out into several branches before entering the sea
Estuary	The part of a river that meets the sea
Mouth	The end of a river

Year 3 Europe including Russia

Key vocabulary words	Definition
Hemisphere	One half of the Earth
Northern Hemisphere	The half of the Earth North of the equator
Southern Hemisphere	The half of the Earth South of the equator
Arctic	The area of the world around the North Pole. It is extremely cold and there is very little light in winter and very little darkness in summer
Antarctic	The area around the South Pole
Time zone	One of the areas into which the world is divided, where the time is calculated as being a particular number of hours behind or ahead of Greenwich Mean Time (the local clock time at Greenwich, UK)
Topographical	Relating to the physical features of an area of land, e.g. its hills, valleys and rivers
Land use	The management and modification of the natural environment or wilderness into a built environment, such as settlements, and semi-natural habitats, such as arable fields, pastures and managed woods
Primary	Important
Numerous	Many
Traversing	Crossing
Source	Where something comes from
Remote	Far away from towns and cities

Delta	Where a river splits and spreads out into several branches before entering the sea or a lake
Commercial	The buying and selling of goods

Year 4 The UK Local study

Key vocabulary words	Definition
Compass	An instrument that you use for finding directions. It has a dial and a magnetic needle that always points to the north
North	The direction that is on your left when you are looking towards the direction where the sun rises
South	The direction that is on your right when you are looking towards the direction where the sun rises
East	The direction that you look towards in the morning in order to see the sun rise
West	The direction that you look towards in the evening in order to see the sun set
North East	The direction towards the point of the horizon <u>midway</u> between North and East
South East	The direction towards the point of the horizon <u>midway</u> between South and East
North West	The direction towards the point of the horizon <u>midway</u> between North and West
South West	The direction towards the point of the horizon <u>midway</u> between South and East

Symbol	Something that represents or stands for something else, usually by convention or association, especially a material object used to represent something abstract
Four figure Grid reference	A method of locating a point on a map or plan by a number referring to the lines of a grid drawn upon the map or plan and to subdivisions of the space between the lines
Land use	The management and modification of the natural environment or wilderness into a built environment, such as settlements, and semi-natural habitats, such as arable fields, pastures and managed woods
Human features	Human geography looks at the impact and behaviour of people and how they relate to the physical world
Physical features	Physical geography looks at the natural processes of the Earth, such as climate and plate tectonics

Year 4 Transport

Key vocabulary words	Definition
Advantages	positive or good things
Disadvantages	Negative or bad things
Congestion	Extremely crowded with traffic
Pollution	A poisonous or dirty substance
Vulnerable	At risk of being hurt
Networks	systems of routes that cross at many points
Frequently	Often

Bridleway	A countryside track for horses
Conflict	Disagreement
International	Between countries
Destination	A place to which someone is travelling or goods are being sent
Cargo	Goods carried by a vehicle
Import	Buy goods from another country
Exporting	Selling goods to another country
Land use	The management and modification of the natural environment or wilderness into a built environment, such as settlements, and semi-natural habitats, such as arable fields, pastures and managed woods

Year 4 Africa

Key vocabulary words	Definition
Hemisphere	One half of the Earth
Northern Hemisphere	The half of the Earth North of the equator
Southern Hemisphere	The half of the Earth South of the equator
Tropic of Cancer	An imaginary line around the Earth 23.5° north of the equator

Tropic of Capricorn	An imaginary line around the Earth 23.5° south of the equator
Arctic	The area of the world around the North Pole. It is extremely cold and there is very little light in winter and very little darkness in summer
Antarctic	The area around the South Pole
Time zone	One of the areas into which the world is divided, where the time is calculated as being a particular number of hours behind or ahead of Greenwich Mean Time (the local clock time at Greenwich, UK)
Topographical	Relating to the physical features of an area of land, e.g. its hills, valleys and rivers
Land use	The management and modification of the natural environment or wilderness into a built environment, such as settlements, and semi-natural habitats, such as arable fields, pastures and managed woods
Human features	Human geography looks at the impact and behaviour of people and how they relate to the physical world
Physical features	Physical geography looks at the natural processes of the Earth, such as climate and plate tectonics

Upper Key Stage 2 Key Vocabulary

Year 5 Trade and Economics

Key vocabulary words	Definition
Sampling	The act or process of taking a small part or quantity of something as a sample for testing or analysis
Systematic	Characterised by the use of order and planning; methodical

Analyse	To consider something carefully or use statistical methods in order to fully understand it
Effectiveness	The quality of working well and producing the results that were intended
Aerial	Existing, occurring, moving or operating in the air
Economic	Concerned with the organisation of the money, industry and trade of a country, region or society
Trade	The exchange of goods and services between one country and another. Goods bought into a country are called imports, and those sold to another country are called exports
Distribution	The way in which something is shared out among a group or spread over an area
Energy	The power derived from the utilisation of physical or chemical resources, especially to provide light and heat or to work machines
Food	Anything that nourishes or stimulates; whatever helps something to keep active, grow, etc.
Minerals	Substances that are formed naturally in the Earth. Minerals are usually solid, inorganic, have a crystal structure and form naturally by geological processes
Water supply	The provision of water by public utilities, commercial organisations, community endeavours or by individuals, usually via a system of pumps and pipes

Year 5 South America

Key vocabulary words	Definition
Climate	The general weather conditions that are typical of a place
Biome	A major ecological community, extending over a large area and usually characterised by a dominant vegetation
Economic	Concerned with the organisation of the money, industry and trade of a country, region or society

Trade	The exchange of goods and services between one country and another. Goods bought into a country are called imports, and those sold to another country are called exports
Distribution	The way in which something is shared out among a group or spread over an area
Energy	The power derived from the utilisation of physical or chemical resources, especially to provide light and heat or to work machines
Food	Anything that nourishes or stimulates; whatever helps something to keep active, grow, etc.
Minerals	Substances that are formed naturally in the Earth. Minerals are usually solid, inorganic, have a crystal structure and form naturally by geological processes
Water supply	The provision of water by public utilities, commercial organisations, community endeavours or by individuals, usually via a system of pumps and pipes
Population	All the inhabitants of a particular place
Landmass	A large continuous area of land
Sparsely	With only a small number of people
Landlocked	With no access to the sea
Indigenous	Native to a country
Colony	A country occupied by another country

Year 5 Rivers and Local study: River Thames

Key vocabulary words	Definition
Sampling	The act or process of taking a small part or quantity of something as a sample for testing or analysis
Systematic	Characterised by the use of order and planning; methodical

Analyse	To consider something carefully or use statistical methods in order to fully understand it
Effectiveness	The quality of working well and producing the results that were intended
Aerial	Existing, occurring, moving or operating in the air
London Tube map	A schematic transport map of the lines, stations and services of the London Underground, known colloquially as 'the Tube', hence the map's name
Settlement	A place newly settled; colony
Water supply	The provision of water by public utilities, commercial organisations, community endeavours or by individuals, usually via a system of pumps and pipes
Ordnance survey (OS)	The national mapping agency of the United Kingdom which covers the island of Great Britain
Watercourse	A channel of flowing water
Tributaries	Smaller streams that join a river
Source	The start of a river
Channel	The course of a river
River bed	The bottom of a river
Reaches	Parts of a river
Meanders	Bends in a river
Deltas	Where a river splits and spreads out into several branches before entering the sea
Estuary	The part of a river that meets the sea
Mouth	The end of a river

Year 6 The Americas

Key vocabulary words	Definition
Latitude	The distance of a place from the equator
Lowlands	Areas of low, flat land
Agricultural	Relating to farming and its methods
Predominant	Larger in number
Colonised	Took control over
Indigenous	Originally from a country
Populous	With a large population
Sparsely	With only a small number of people
Metropolitan	Relating to a large city
Physical features	Physical geography looks at the natural processes of the Earth, such as climate and plate tectonics
Climate	The general weather conditions that are typical of a place
Biome	A major ecological community, extending over a large area and usually characterised by a dominant vegetation

Year 6 Extreme Earth

Key vocabulary words	Definition
Earthquake	Shaking of the ground caused by movement of the Earth's crust
Tsunami	A very large wave, caused by an earthquake
Flood	An overflow of a large amount of water beyond its normal limits, especially over what is normally dry land
Hurricane	A tropical storm with winds that have reached a constant speed of 74 miles per hour or more.
Tornado	A giant tube of air that spins violently, extending from the thunderstorm to the ground
Volcano	Mountains from which lava, gas, steam and ash from inside the Earth sometimes burst
Drought	A shortage of rain over a long period of time
Wildfire	A large, destructive fire that spreads quickly over woodland or brush.
Climate	The general weather conditions that are typical of a place
Biome	A major ecological community, extending over a large area and usually characterised by a dominant vegetation
Population	All the inhabitants of a particular place
Climate change	Long-term shifts in temperatures and weather patterns.
Water cycle	The circulation of the Earth's water: water evaporates from the sea into the atmosphere, where it condenses and falls as rain or snow, returning to the sea by rivers or returning to the atmosphere by evaporation

Year 6 Local Area Change

Key vocabulary words	Definition
Sampling	The act or process of taking a small part or quantity of something as a sample for testing or analysis
Systematic	Characterised by the use of order and planning; methodical
Analyse	To consider something carefully or use statistical methods in order to fully understand it
Effectiveness	The quality of working well and producing the results that were intended
Ordnance survey (OS)	The national mapping agency of the United Kingdom which covers the island of Great Britain
Six figure Grid Reference	A method of locating a point on a map or plan by a number referring to the lines of a grid drawn upon the map or plan and to subdivisions of the space between the lines
Longitude	Lines which run in an East-West direction across the Earth
Latitude	Lines which run in a North-South direction across the Earth
Compass Rose	A cross-like figure that shows direction on a Map
Key	Symbols and colours that represent objects on a map
Scale	The relationship between the distance on the map and the distance in real life.
Population	All the inhabitants of a particular place
Land use	The management and modification of the natural environment or wilderness into a built environment, such as settlements, and semi-natural habitats, such as arable fields, pastures and managed woods