



Let your light shine

Geography progression

Concept	Nursery	Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Maps		A map is a picture or drawing of an area of land or sea.	A map is a picture or drawing of an area of land or sea that can show human and physical features. A key is used to show features on a map. A map has symbols to show where things are located.	A map is a picture or drawing of an area of land or sea that can show human and physical features. Maps use symbols and a key. A key is the information needed to read a map and a symbol is a picture or icon used to show a geographical feature.	A four-figure grid reference contains four numbers, which are eastings and northings.	A six-figure grid reference contains six numbers and is more precise than a four-figure grid reference.	The geographical term 'relief' describes the difference between the highest and lowest elevations of an area. Relief maps show the contours of land based on shape and height. Contour lines show the elevation of the land, joining places of the same height above sea level.	A geographical area can be understood by using grid references and lines of latitude and longitude to identify position, contour lines to identify height above sea level and map symbols to identify physical and human features.
Settlements and land use			A settlement is a place where people live and work. Towns and cities are urban settlements.	Industries are businesses that make things, sell things and help people live their everyday lives. Land can be used for recreational, transport, agricultural, residential and commercial purposes, or a mixture of these.	Different types of settlement include rural, urban, hamlet, town, village, city and suburban areas. A city is a large settlement where many people live and work. Residential areas surrounding cities are called suburbs.	Land uses include agricultural, recreational, housing and industry. Water systems are used for transport, industry, leisure and power.	Changes to the weather and climate (temperature, weather patterns and precipitation) can affect land use. Farmers living in different countries adapt their farming practices to suit their local climate and landscape.	Climate and extreme weather can affect the size and nature of settlements, shelters and buildings, diet, lifestyle, jobs, clothing, transport and transportation links and the availability of natural resources.
Position	Positional language is used to describe where things are in relation to one another. Positional language includes in, on, next to, behind and in front of.	Positional language is used to describe where things are in relation to one another. Positional language includes in, on, next to, behind, in front of, in between, above, below and underneath.	Positional language includes behind, next to and in front of. Directional language includes left, right, straight ahead and turn.	The four cardinal points on a compass are north, south, east and west. A route is a set of directions that can be used to get from one place to another.	The eight points of a compass are north, south, east, west, north-east, north-west, south-east and south-west.	The four cardinal directions are north (N), east (E), south (S) and west (W), which are at 90° angles on the compass rose. The four intercardinal (ordinal) directions are halfway between the cardinal directions: north-east (NE), south-east (SE), south-west (SW) and north-west (NW).	Compass points can be used to describe the relationship of features to each other, or to describe the direction of travel. Accurate grid references identify the position of key physical and human features.	Invisible lines of latitude run horizontally around the Earth and show the northern or southern position of a geographical area. Invisible lines of longitude run vertically from the North to the South Pole and show the westerly or easterly position of a geographical area.
Climate and weather	There are changes in the local environment	There are 4 seasons in the UK which have weather patterns.	There are 4 seasons in the UK which have weather patterns. In the UK the length of a day varies depending on the season. Symbols can show different weather.	A weather pattern is a type of weather that is repeated.	Excessive precipitation includes thunderstorms, downbursts, tornadoes, waterspouts, tropical cyclones, extratropical cyclones, blizzards and ice storms.	Climatic variation describes the changes in weather patterns or the average weather conditions of a country or continent.	Changes to the weather and climate (temperature, weather patterns and precipitation) can affect land use. Farmers living in different countries adapt their farming practices to suit their local climate and landscape.	Climate and extreme weather can affect the size and nature of settlements, shelters and buildings, diet, lifestyle, jobs, clothing, transport and transportation links and the availability of natural resources.
Human features	Human features of the immediate environment include the school, the playground, streets and houses.	Human features are man-made and can include shops, houses and buildings.	Human features include factories, farms and offices. Land marks and monuments are features of a landscape and can help to establish a location.	Human features can include castles, schools, hospitals, bridges and these can be used in different ways.	Services can include banks, post offices, hospitals, public transport and garages. Land use types include leisure, housing, industry, transport and agriculture.	Human features can be interconnected by function, type and transport links.	Transport networks can be rail, road, canal, air and sea. These link places together and are usually built due to high demand.	The distribution of and access to natural resources, cultural influences and economic activity are significant factors in community life in a settlement.
Physical features			Physical features are naturally-created features of the Earth.	A physical feature is one that forms naturally, and can change over time due to weather and other forces.	A volcano is an opening in the Earth's surface from which gas, hot magma and ash can escape. The Earth is made of four different layers.	Mountains form over millions of years. There are five types of mountain: fold, fault-block, volcanic, dome and plateau.	North America is broadly categorised into six major biomes: tundra, coniferous forest, grasslands (prairie), deciduous forest, desert and tropical rain forest. South America has a vast variety of biomes, including desert, alpine, rain forest and grasslands.	The Arctic is a sea of ice surrounded by land and located at the highest latitudes of the Northern Hemisphere. Antarctica is a continent located in the Southern Hemisphere. Physical features typical of the Arctic and Antarctic regions include glaciers, icebergs, ice caps, ice sheets, ice shelves and sea ice.

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Environment		It is everyone's responsibility to look after the environment.		Litter and pollution have a harmful effect on the areas where we live, work and play.	The local environment can be improved by picking up litter, planting flowers and improving amenities.	The Earth has five climate zones: desert, Mediterranean, polar, temperate and tropical.	Altitudinal zonation describes the different climates and types of wildlife at different altitudes on mountains.	The Earth has five climate zones: desert, temperate and tropical. A biome is a large ecological area on the Earth's surface and are defined by a range of factors.	Climate change is the long-term change in expected patterns of weather that contributes to the melting of polar ice caps, rising sea levels and extreme weather. Climate change is caused by global warming, and rearing livestock.
Sustainability				Natural environments can be affected by the actions of humans. Humans can protect the environment.	Conservation is the protection of living things and the environment from damage caused by human activity. Conservation activities protect the environment for people in the future.	A person's carbon footprint is the amount of carbon dioxide released into the atmosphere from their activities.	The environment produces natural resources. Humans use some natural resources to make energy. Some natural resources cannot be replaced, like coal or oil. They are non-renewable. Some, like wind or flowing water, are renewable sources of energy.	Industries can make their manufacturing processes more sustainable and better for the environment by using renewable energy sources, reducing, reusing and recycling and sharing resources.	Natural resource management (NRM) manages natural resources, including water, land, soil, plants and animals. It recognises that people rely on healthy landscapes to live and aims to create sustainable ways of using land now and in the future.