

Geography's Big Ideas (Key Concepts)

There are a number of key concepts which underpin the study of geography. Pupils need to understand these concepts in order to deepen and broaden their knowledge and understanding.

A high-quality geography education should inspire in pupils a curiosity and fascination about the world and its people that will remain with them for the rest of their lives. Teaching should equip pupils with knowledge about diverse places, people, resources and natural and human environments, together with a deep understanding of the Earth's key physical and human processes. Children will develop contextual knowledge of the location of globally significant places – both terrestrial and marine – including their defining physical and human characteristics and how these provide a geographical context for understanding the actions of processes.

KC1	Locational knowledge	To know and recall where places are, and build up their mental maps of familiar places and the rest of the world
KC2	Place knowledge	Understand geographical similarities and differences of contrasting areas
KC3	Human and physical geography	Understand the natural processes of the Earth, such as climate and plate tectonics. Recognise the impact and behaviour of people and how they relate to the physical world.
KC4	Geographical skills and fieldwork	Are competent in the geographical skills needed to: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• collect, analyse and communicate with a range of data gathered through experiences of fieldwork that deepen their understanding of geographical processes• interpret a range of sources of geographical information, including maps, diagrams, globes, aerial photographs• communicate geographical information in a variety of ways, including through maps, data and writing