

Tonwell St Mary's School Curriculum Overview of Intent for Geography

Overall aims:

We aim to inspire all of our children have a life-long curiosity and respect for the world and its people. We aim to develop children's understanding regarding both the human and natural aspects of the world, developing their knowledge of diverse places, people and environments. We intend for our children to leave the school with a range of geographical knowledge and skills, which can be transferred into other curriculum areas, as well as later in life. This includes but is not limited to; a secure knowledge of maps skills, a secure understanding of location, including their location within the world as well as the British Isles and of course, asking and answering questions about the world around them. We believe that a secure geographical knowledge and understand is key for academic success, but also key to promote spiritual, moral, social and cultural development.

Our unique context:

Due to the unique context of our school with mixed-age classes and rolling programmes of study, we have organised our curriculum for Geography in the following ways:

In Early Years, we begin by considering the child's home and local environment, including simple map skills and exploring the village of Tonwell. Children also consider the wider world through harvest and holiday topics. In Key Stage 1, we learn to name, locate and identify the characteristics of the seven continents and five oceans, and learn about their human and physical features. In Key Stage 2, children study a UK based and wider world-based topic each year and revisit geographical skills annually. Our Forest School is utilised to support geographical learning, particularly with first-hand observation. In all year groups we ensure that we utilise the rich opportunities provided in our location area by exploring the transport in our local area in the Early Years, looking at what Tonwell is like compared to England and the UK in KS1 and looking at various changes over time in our local area in KS2. Due to our close links with Thundridge JMI and the local church, our KS2 children also take part in a project where they use their geographical knowledge to plan a route a circular route to one of the sites, which they then complete the following week.

Due to our setting being a smaller than average primary school and many of our children not experiencing the world outside of their immediate locality, staff aim to share their own experiences and provide as much knowledge of the outside world as possible. We visit the beach biannually, providing children with new experiences which allow them to make human and physical comparisons between their local area and a contrasting area in the UK. On each year we do not visit the beach, we set up an orienteering day on our site, which allows children to immerse themselves into various aspects of fieldwork and again, notice and compare physical and human features of our local area.

	Autumn Term		Spring Term		Summer Term	
EYFS Years A & B	This is me. What happens during harvest? Where do fruit and vegetables come from? What do I buy in the supermarket?	Celebrations. Where are different festivals celebrated? How can I deliver Christmas greetings to everyone in Tonwell village?	Ticket to ride. Where do I live and where is our school? How can I travel? Where could I travel to? Where in the world do people go on holiday? Where in the world did my parents/grandparents	Come outside. What is the weather like/seasons? What minibeasts are around the world?	Traditional Tales. Where have traditional tales come from? Are they the same or different in other countries?	When I Grow Up. Where would I like to travel to when I grow up?
		What journey did Mary and Joseph	travel to?	Can I create my own farm map?		





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		go on? Fieldwork: Autumn walk.	Fieldwork: Walk around our local area.	What can I do to help my world? Fieldwork: recording the weather, minibeast		
No	ar for charge	Country footing	Transport on hus place	weather, minibeast hunts.	Tuo ditional talas	
supo farn anir fact fruit	ermarket, local, m, plant,	same, different, celebrate, deliver, map, local area, travel.	Transport, car, bus, plane, helicopter, train, bike, scooter, walk, travel, ticket, holiday, world, distance, Tonwell, near, far.	seasons, minibeast, country,	Traditional, tales, different, same, countries, (traditional tales key vocab once texts are confirmed).	World, map, travel, country, continent, transport.





	 Comments and asks questions about the second second	ces, patterns and change.
KS1 Year A		How is the UK different to theNorth Pole?Where does our food come from?Where are the seas and oceans? (7 continents)How is the UK from?Where does our from?Where are the seas and oceans? (7 continents)
		World map, countries, travel, similarity, difference, produce, fair trade, contrast, human, physical features, region, NorthContinent, country, globe, crops, plants, animals, produce, fair trade, transportation, fossil fuels, city, town, village, factory, farm, shopSea, ocean, coast, beach, cliff, coral, glacier, shore, waves, sea creatures, land, warm andcold water, human and physical features, marine, harbour, port.Pole, South pole, arctic, northern hemisphere, climate, population.transportation, factory, farm, shopharbour, port.
KS1 Year B	Can you make a picture map of the school grounds? (around our school unit).	What is it like where we live? (London link to the Great Fire of London). What animals are found in Africa? (Comparison to the UK)
	Map, plan, aerial, above, grid, symbols, bird-eye, village, town, county, country, watertower, public house, pub, near, far, place ofworship, bus stop, car park, block of flats, bungalow,	Village, town, city, country, continent, world, London, capital city, United Kingdom, similarities, differences, hill, river, north, south, east, west.Habitat, human and physical features, continent, country, world map, globe, similarities, differences.





detached, semi- detached, house, population, fieldwork, city,	Fieldwork: observing and recording the weather.	
town, village. Fieldwork: a walk around our local area.		





KS2 Year A	Where is the longest me world?	ountain range in the	What makes volcar	noes erupt?	similarities and differences JK and Scandinavia?
	Mountain, map, globe, l America, human and ph	ongest, hill, Andes, South ysical features.	region, volcano, cra	ter, cone, vent, ire', lave, molten, ash	ation, crop, climate, human eatures, similarities,





		extinct, advantages, disadvantages, social, environmental, economic, fertile	
KS2 Year B	How did the Romans shape our local roads?	Why are there Earthquakes in North America?	How does the water go round and round?
	map, United Kingdom, OS map, aerial view, fieldwork, digital technologies, symbols	World map, globe, continent, country, region, tectonic plates, tsunami, advantages, disadvantages, social, environmental, economic.	Sea, ocean, water cycle, reservoir, river, stream, source, precipitation, sources, mouth, river basin, tributary, estuary, meander, upstream, downstream, erosion, transportation.
KS2 Year C	How does life by the River Thames compare to life by the River Nile?	What is life like in the Amazon?	What are the similarities and differences between England and Greece?
	Map, United Kingdom, river, source, mouth, river basin, river, stream, source, precipitation, sources, mouth, tributary, estuary, meander, upstream, downstream, erosion, transportation	World map, globe, continent, country, region, longitude, latitude, tropic of Capricorn, tropic of Cancer, N,S,E,W, river, river basin, source, mouth, equator, vegetation, settlement, tropical, Amazon basin, natural resources, biome, compass.	Europe, population, crop, climate, human and physical features
KS2 Year D	What is the landscape of the USA like?	Are we damaging our world?	What affect did world war 1 or 2 have on our local area and how has it changed over time?
	USA, landscape, biomes, map, globe, desert, coastline, frozen, plains, steppes. Hemispheres, time zone, Greenwich, Meantime, Prime, Meridian, human and physical features.	Climate zones, biomes, vegetation belts, climate change, damage, map, United Kingdom, sustainability, habitat, destruction, conservation, human/physical features, future, temperature.	Trade, Europe, immigration, World War, natural resources, distribution. Map, United Kingdom, OS map, aerial view,fieldwork, human/physical features, digital
	Note: this topic includes standalone lessons on hemispheres and time zones.		technologies, symbols, local, environment, 8 point compass, 6 figure grid references.









The purpose of the skills ladder is to break down the revisited objectives to show the expectation for each year group. This is not to limit what children can achieve but to give guidance to staff to support short term planning and implementation of the intent document.

Year group	Geographical skills and fieldwork	Map skills
Nursery/Reception	 Provide opportunities to observe and record the weather. Provide opportunities to observe changes in the natural world through exploration of the outside area e.g. using the forest school area to go on seasonal walks. 	 Use simple directional language. Plot a route using a basic map. Create their own basic picture map of a familiar area. Explore locating us and other relevant places on a globe, e.g. South Africa for the big 5.
Year 1	 Know about the local area and locate some key landmarks using aerial photographs. Describe a journey on a map using simple compass directions and locational and directional language. Use and understand basic weather symbols 	 Use a world map, atlas, or a globe to recognise, name and locate some continents and oceans. Locate countries, continents and seas which have been taught during the topic with support. Use some appropriate language when talking about maps, globes, and atlases.
Year 2	 Know about the local area and locate some key landmarks in relation to the rest of the UK. 	 Locate countries, continents and seas which have been taught during the topic. Use some appropriate language when talking about maps, globes, and atlases.
Year 3	 Use fieldwork to observe the human and physical features of the local area. 	 Use features of a map such as 8 compass points, 6 figure grid references and symbols to build knowledge of areas. Use a map to locate continents, countries, cities and seas which have been taught, e.g. The UK and its cities. Use a digital map, including the zoom function, to locate and gather information e.g. Sweden and its features (woodland, lakes, mountains).
		 Use directional language and some grid references when talking about location.





Year 4	 In a group, carry out fieldwork in the local area selecting appropriate techniques e.g. record traffic on the A602 	 Relate world, continent, country and city by using a map to locate key European countries and cities e.g. Russia and Moscow.
	Use fieldwork to compare local human and	• Give directions up to eight compass points.
	physical features between the UK and Scandinavia.	• Know and locate significant roads in England on a map and know and explain some key differences between some of our local roads e.g. (A602 and Ware Road).
Year 5	 Use fieldwork to investigate key questions and begin to answer them e.g. what is our rainfall like and how can we reuse water? Use fieldwork to help describe the differences between physical and human features of Tonwell/Ware/Hertford from 1940 to present day 	 Know and locate key European countries and cities on a map e.g Russia, Moscow, and Saint Petersburg and North and South America on a map, relating this to the Northern and Southern Hemispheres and tropics of cancer and Capricorn. Locate the Amazon on a map and relate this to the equator. Locate the River Thames and River Nile on a map and use the map to describe and explain some basic facts about the rivers. Explore and describe maps of the local area, using appropriate geographical vocabulary e.g. symbols, keys. Know and locate some motorways, A roads and B roads in the UK.
Year 6	 Use fieldwork to observe, describe and record the environment and create a sketch map using symbols, a key and a scale. 	 Use the eight points of a compass, four and six-figure grid references, symbols and key (including the use of Ordnance Survey maps). Make sketch maps of the local area using symbols, a key
	 Present information gathered in fieldwork in a variety of ways, including graphs and digitally. 	 Make sketch maps of the local area using symbols, a key and a scale.

Geography Knowledge Ladder

EYFS	Year 1/2	Year 3/4	Year 5/6





What happens during	Know that fruit and		
harvest?	vegetables grow in the		
Where do fruit and	ground or on trees.		
vegetables come from?	Know the process of food		
What do I buy in the	coming from the field/tree		
supermarket?	to the supermarket.		
Where are different	Know that different festivals		
festivals celebrated?	are celebrated around the		
How can I deliver Christmas	world.		
greetings to everyone in	Explore some countries on		
Tonwell village?	the globe e.g., India for		
	Diwali.		
	Know some key features of		
	Tonwell village e.g. the		
	water tower, the road,		
	housing.		
	Know that we can use a		
	map/create a map to plot		
	our route around Tonwell.		
Where do I live? Where do I	Know and locate where you		
go to school?	live and our school on an		
How can I travel? Where	aerial photograph/basic		
could I travel to?	map.		
Where in the world do	Know that we can travel		
people go on holiday?	using different modes of		
Where in the world did my	transport and that this		
parents/grandparents	might depend on how far		
travel to?	we are travelling.		
	Locate some places we have		
	been to on the globe.		
	Locate some places our		
	parents/grandparents have		
	been to and compare them		
	to where we have been.		
What is the weather	Know that there are 4		
like/seasons?	seasons and talk about		
What minibeasts are	some of their key		





around the world?	characteristics e.g. orange		
Can I create my own farm	leaves falling in autumn,		
map?	cold and frost in winter,		
	flowers blooming in spring,		
	sun and hot weather in		
	summer.		
	Know, observe, and		
	describe habitats for		
	minibeasts in this country		
	(slug, worm, beetle etc.)		
	Know and describe		
	minibeasts found in		
	different countries and		
	locate on the globe.		
	Revisit creating a map and		
	what they are used for.		
Where have traditional	Know that there a range of		
tales come from?	traditional tales around the		
Are they the same or	world and locate the		
different in other	countries on a globe.		
countries?	Compare traditional tales		
	from England to other		
	countries.		
Where would I like to travel	Revisit modes of transport		
to when I grow up?	and travel.		
	Know that there are lots of		
	different places we could		
	travel to around the world.		
	Locate different countries		
	we may travel to on the		
	globe.		
	Know that we might need		
	different items in our		
	luggage to travel to		
	different places.		



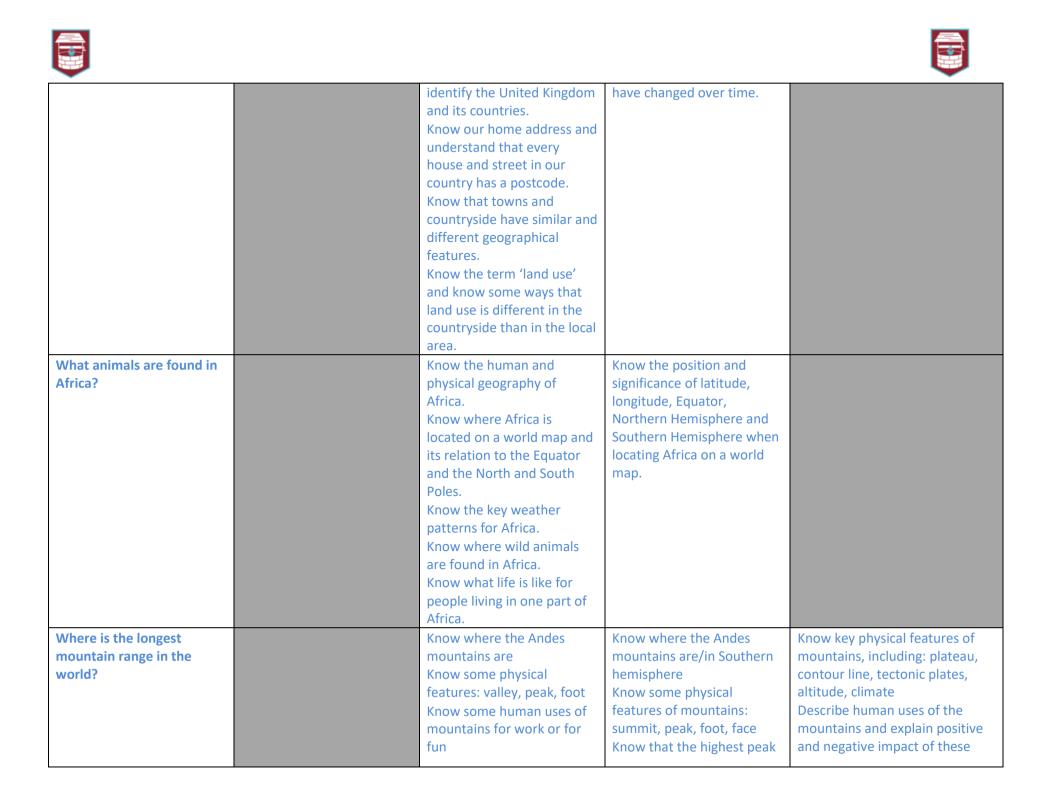


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How is the UK different to the North Pole?	Know some human and physical features of Antarctica. Know seasonal and daily weather patterns in the United Kingdom and the location of cold areas of the world in relation to the Equator and the North and South Poles. Know the location of the UK and South Pole on world maps, atlases and globes.	Know the name and location of counties and cities of the UK. Know key topographical features of Antarctica and the UK. Know the position and significance of Northern Hemisphere, Southern Hemisphere, Arctic and Antarctic Circle.	
Where does our food come from?	Know the name and location of the world's seven continents. Know the location of hot and cold areas of the world in relation to the Equator and the North and South Poles. Know the names of food that come from hot countries. Know why some food cannot be grown in the UK.	Know environmental regions of the world. Know the position and significance of latitude, longitude, Equator, Northern Hemisphere, Southern Hemisphere, the Tropics of Cancer and Capricorn, Arctic and Antarctic Circle. Know key aspects of climate zones.	
Where are the seas and oceans?	Know the name and location of the world's five oceans. Know the names of seas around the UK.	Know the position and significance of latitude, longitude, Equator, Northern Hemisphere, Southern Hemisphere, the	





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	Know the difference between a sea and an ocean. Know that an ocean is a large body of water. Know that the equator is the hottest part of the world and it relates to the Earth's orbit around the sun.	Tropics of Cancer and Capricorn, Arctic and Antarctic Circle.	
Can you make a picture map of the school grounds?	Know how to use simple compass directions (North, South, East and West) and locational and directional language, to describe the location of features and routes on a map. Know how to use aerial photographs to recognise landmarks and basic human and physical features. Know key features of a simple map; and use and construct basic symbols in a key. Know the geography of their school and its grounds and the key human and physical features of its surrounding environment.	Know how to use the 8 points of a compass, 4- and 6- figure grid references, symbols and key to build knowledge of the local area.	
What is it like where we live?	Know some human and physical features of the UK. Know seasonal and daily weather patterns in the United Kingdom. Know how to use a world maps, atlases and globes to	Know the name and location of counties and cities of the UK. Know the difference between a town and a city. Know how physical and human features of the UK	







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		is Mount Aconcagua Know basic human uses of the mountains: farming, mining, tourism and basic impact of these	Explain basic ways mountain are formed (e.g. fold mountains) Know that mountains can be found around the world, including under the sea
What makes volcanoes erupt?	Know some physical features: eruption, lava Know simple reasons why a volcano can erupt (ground moving/lava beneath Earth's surface) Know some positive and negative impact of eruptions	Know some physical features of volcanoes: vent, sides, Earth's crust Give basic explanation for eruptions (Earth's crust moving) Know some social, economic and environmental impact of eruptions	Know key physical features of volcanoes, including: core, mantle, crust, magma, tectonic plates, dormant, active, Richter scale, vegetation, pressure, crater Know social, economic and environmental impact of eruptions (e.g. Iceland/St Helen's/La Palma Island) Know how countries predict, prepare and protect from volcano eruptions Explain how volcanoes erupt (tectonic plates moving/pressure building up)
What are the differences between the UK and Scandanavia?	Know names of countries that make up Scandinavia Describe differences in climate between UK and Scandinavia Know basic physical features of Sweden: woodland, lakes, mountains	Know names of countries and capital cities of Scandinavian countries Know which countries and seas border Sweden Compare the climate of the UK and Scandinavia Know the UK/Scandinavia are in the Northern Hemisphere Know basic facts about life in the region of Stockholm and why tourists go there	Know and understand the words: climate zone, Northern Lights, global warming, sustainability, polar ice caps, artic, tropics of Cancer and Capricorn Know some major cities in Sweden and make comparisons between the regions of Stockholm and London Know basic biomes of Sweden: woodland, grassland, tundra Know positive and negative impact of human activity on Sweden (e.g. tourism, global warming)





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How did the Romans shape	Know where some	Describe climate zones Know about Prime/Greenwich Meridian and time zones, including daylight hours linked to UK and Scandinavia Know what is meant by
our roads?	significant roads are in England (e.g. M25/M1/M11) Know differences between A602/Ware Road and where they are on maps (fieldwork: traffic investigation) Know that Romans built roads in our local area (Ermine Street)	motorway, A road, B road Describe differences in A602/Ware Road and how road systems near the village have changed over time (fieldwork: traffic investigation) Know some of the features of Roman roads and describe how they have shaped our road system today
Why are there earthquakes in North America?	Know some physical features of earthquakes: Earth's crust, tectonic plate Give basic explanation for earthquakes (Earth's crust moving) Know some social, economic and environmental impact of earthquakes Know North America is in the Northern Hemisphere	Know key physical features of earthquakes, including: core, mantle, crust, seismometer, Richter scale, pressure Know social, economic and environmental impact of earthquakes (e.g. Haiti 2010, Boxing Day tsunami 2004) Know how countries predict, prepare and protect from earthquakes Explain how earthquakes happen and why they are more likely to happen in certain places on Earth (tectonic plates moving/pressure)
How does the water go round and round?	Know basic explanation of the water cycle, including: evaporation, condensation, river, sea, cloud, liquid, gas, river, mountain, coast, sea	Know main features of the water cycle, including: atmosphere, runoff, transpiration, precipitation, water sustainability, environment



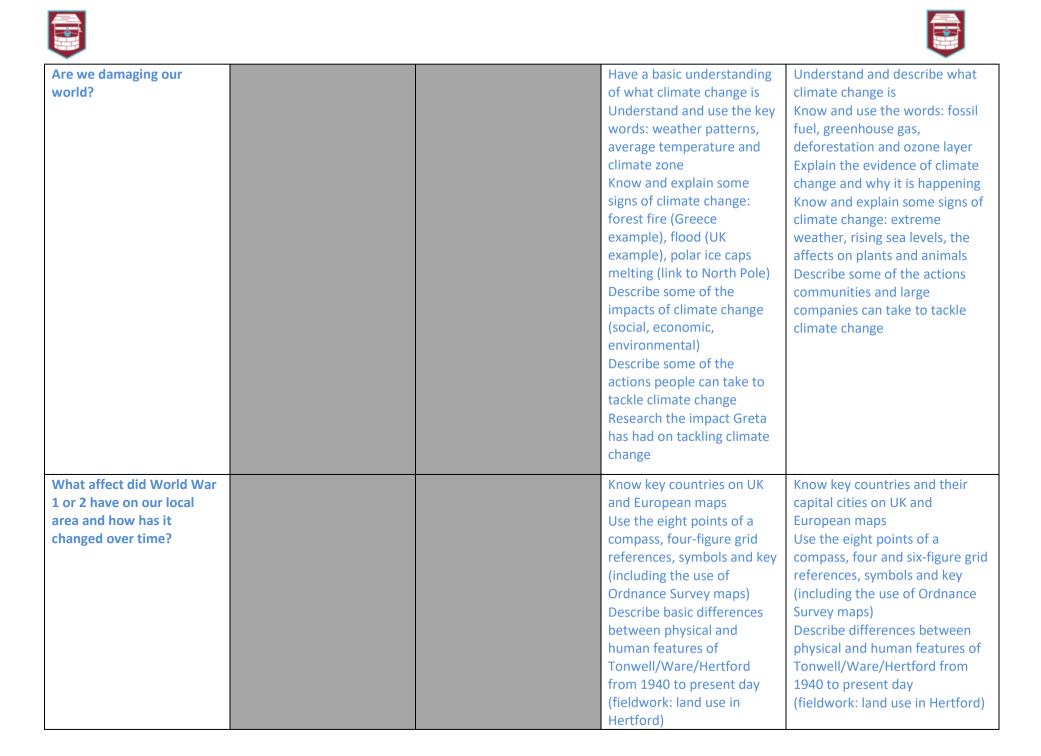


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	Explain some basic ways	Explain ways that people save
	that people save water	water using water conservation
	(fieldwork: rainfall and	Know some features of aquatic
	reusing water)	biomes, including marine and
		freshwater
		(fieldwork: rainfall and reusing
		water)
How does life by the River	Know where the River	Know physical features and
Thames compare to life by	Thames and River Nile are	human uses of rivers, including:
the River Nile?	on a map and some basic	erosion, meander, tributary,
	facts about the rivers	estuary, irrigation, agriculture,
	Know basic physical features	transport, trade
	of rivers: source, mountain,	Describe comparisons between
	mouth, stream	the physical features and human
	Know some basic land use	land use of River Thames and
	by River Thames and River	River Nile
	Nile making basic	(fieldwork: local river visit)
	comparisons	(
	(fieldwork: local river visit)	
What is life like in the	Know basic features of	Know and understand words
Amazon?	rainforest biome: climate,	linked to rainforest biome:
	examples of plants and	climate zone, biodiversity,
	animals	sustainability, ecosystem,
	Know that the Amazon is	endangered, deforestation,
	close to the equator and	fertilise
	what is special about	Describe features of rainforest
	climate near to the equator	biomes and their relationship
	Describe basic human	with the equator
	features and land use of the	Describe human features and
	Amazonia region in Brazil:	land use of the Amazonia region
	farming, settlements,	in Brazil: agriculture, settlements
	transport	
What are the similarities	Know names of countries	Know and understand the
and difference between	and capital cities of UK and	words: climate zone,
England and Greece?	Greece and know where	Mediterranean Sea, global
	they are on a map of Europe	warming, bush fire, tropics of





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	Greece Know UK/G Northern H Know basic	ussia imate of UK and ireece are in the emisphere facts about life d of Kefalonia	Know some major cities in Greece and make comparisons between the island of Kefalonia and the Isle of Wight Knows Russia is a part of Europe and can locate it on a map Know basic biomes of Greece: forest, woodland Know positive and negative impact of human activity on Greece (e.g. tourism, global warming) Describe climate zones Know about Prime/Greenwich Meridian and time zones, including daylight hours linked to UK and Scandinavia
What is the landscape of the USA like?	world map locate the o Know basic landscape a the USA and impact peo grassland, o jobs, popula	ple's lives (e.g. desert, forest, ation) the climate is	Know where the USA is on a world map and locate different states. Know and understand the words: climate zone, natural resource, industry, population, settlement, polar ice caps, artic, tropics of Cancer and Capricorn Know basic biomes of the USA: forest, grassland, desert Describe climate zones Know about Prime/Greenwich Meridian and time zones, including daylight hours linked to Russia Describe the landscape of the USA and how it impacts people's lives (e.g. where settlements are, industry)







Concept Ladder

Topics	Key concepts							
	Sustainability	Diversity	Climate	Continent	Environment	Settlement	Human and Physical	Biome
North Pole		✓	\checkmark	✓	✓	\checkmark	✓	
Food	\checkmark							
Seas and Oceans			~	~	\checkmark	\checkmark	✓	
Our school				\checkmark	\checkmark		\checkmark	
The UK	\checkmark	\checkmark	\checkmark	\checkmark	\checkmark	\checkmark	\checkmark	
African Animals			\checkmark	✓	\checkmark			
The Andes			\checkmark	✓	✓	\checkmark	✓	\checkmark
Volcanoes			\checkmark	\checkmark	\checkmark		\checkmark	
Scandinavia			\checkmark	\checkmark	\checkmark	~	\checkmark	
Romans				\checkmark	\checkmark	~	\checkmark	
Earthquakes			\checkmark	\checkmark	\checkmark		\checkmark	
The Water Cycle	\checkmark		\checkmark		\checkmark		✓	
Rivers	\checkmark		\checkmark	✓	\checkmark	\checkmark	\checkmark	
Amazon			\checkmark	✓	✓	\checkmark	✓	\checkmark
England and Greece			\checkmark	\checkmark	\checkmark		✓	
The USA			\checkmark	✓	✓	\checkmark	✓	\checkmark
Damaging our World	~		\checkmark	~	\checkmark	\checkmark	\checkmark	\checkmark
Changes to our Area	~	\checkmark	\checkmark	\checkmark	\checkmark	\checkmark	\checkmark	