

Geography

Our Vision

We believe that through geography our children will develop a fascination and curiosity about the world around them that will remain with them for the rest of their lives. As geographers, they will acquire a detailed knowledge of the people, places and environments that shape our world. This geographical knowledge will help the children to explain the physical features of the world they live in, how they are interconnected and how humans have shaped and changed the land over time.

Geography Curriculum Overview

Early Years

In the EYFS, geography comes under the curriculum area of 'Understanding the World,' providing links with science and history. Through the exploration of our outdoor area, we encourage the children to investigate the structures, plants and animals that we find there. Throughout the year, they learn about the changing seasons and the weather.

We also begin to introduce the concepts of maps encouraging the children to look closely at what they see and to draw it accurately. The children also have the opportunity to explore the local area looking at buildings, amenities and natural features.

Language acquisition and development is key in the EYFS and the children are given lots of opportunities to develop their geographical vocabulary like the names of places, people and things, and the words needed to describe and locate them.

Key Stage 1

In Key Stage 1 we begin to look in more detail at our local area, the United Kingdom and the wider world.

The children will begin by exploring the human and physical features of the school grounds through geographical enquiries and simple fieldwork and then move onto looking at the areas immediately surrounding school. The children will learn about the four countries that make up the United Kingdom, their capital cities and the seas that surround our islands. They will then go on to compare a region of the UK with a contrasting area of a non-European country. Looking further afield, the children will discover the continents and oceans of the world and start to learn about different biomes including hot and cold places.

As they develop their geographical skills, the children will learn to use maps, aerial photographs, atlases and globes to explore the local area, the UK and the wider world. They will begin to draw simple maps with basic symbols in a key and use simple compass directions (north, south, east and west). Throughout all the units of work they will develop their geographical and locational vocabulary.

Key Stage 2

In Key Stage 2 the children will continue to develop their fieldwork and geographical enquiries as they explore more areas around school and in Salford. As they continue

to learn about the UK, they will explore some of the geographical regions, counties and major cities. They will also learn about the key physical features of our islands, including mountains, coasts and rivers and they will explore how humans use the land and how this has changed over time.

As they look globally, they will extend their locational knowledge and geographical understanding beyond the United Kingdom to countries, cities and regions across the world. They will learn to identify the position and significance of lines of latitude and longitude (including the Equator), the hemispheres, the tropics, the pole and the Prime/Greenwich Meridian and time zones (including day and night).

While exploring the physical features of the Earth, the children will learn about how rivers are formed and the water cycle, they will discover how mountains are formed and how volcanoes and earthquakes have shaped the land. Building on their knowledge of hot and cold places from Key Stage 1, the children will learn about the other biomes of the world and different climate zones.

At Summerville we want our children to have a sense of environmental responsibility and we encourage them to understand environmental issues at a local and global level. They will learn about the distribution of natural resources such as food and energy and learn about the impact humans are having on the environment such as deforestation and global warming. The children will discover how we can make positive changes to protect our planet.

The children will continue to develop their geographical skills by using a wider variety of maps (including Ordnance Survey maps), atlases, globes and digital mapping to locate countries and places locally and globally. They will extend their knowledge of compasses to include all 8 points. The maps and plans they learn to draw will become increasingly more complex and detailed and include more comprehensive symbols in a key.