

The Geography Curriculum at Bernards Heath Infant School

Subject: Geography		
Skills	Knowledge	Context - How we teach this:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use aerial photos to recognise landmarks and basic human features • Use simple compass directions (N, S, E, W) • Devise a simple map using basic symbols in a key • Use world maps and atlases to identify countries nationally and internationally • Observe and explore the local environment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Name physical and human features, for example: river, hill, city, factory • Name and locate continents, oceans and the characteristics of the four countries in the UK • Use the local area and compare similarities and differences to other parts of the world • Identify seasons and weather patterns across the world - including hot and cold areas 	<p><u>Year 1:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In the theme 'North, East, South, West' children use directional language and develop map skills using the immediate school and the wider community. Outdoor learning promotes opportunities to talk about the school grounds and in the autumn term children visit the Heath and take part in a series of activities including leaf and bug hunts. • Learning about local and exotic habitats gives children an opportunity to make comparisons. They learn about how people are working to protect animals and this learning is enhanced with a trip to London Zoo where children investigate the lives of animals. Their learning culminates with a presentation, to their class about an endangered animal. • Children visit St Albans in the summer making links with their History learning. They take a tour of local landmarks and investigate the different uses of buildings in the town. Children learn about people's homes around the world and the materials they are made from. They make comparisons to their own homes and the suitability of homes to the places they can be found in. They make habitats for animals and talk about what certain animals need to survive in different places around the world. <p><u>Year 2:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children visit Mountfichet Castle (links to history) in the autumn term and learn specific geographical vocabulary linked to castles, for example: moat, hill, river. Through visits to the National Gallery (links to art) and St Albans Market (links to history) children can talk about different places and their features, they look at maps and use a key and grid references. • They make comparisons between St Albans and Peru and the Amazon studying the people who live there and what their lives are like. A special adventurer called 'Ranger Paul' comes to school with some very interesting creatures and talks about the environment they come from. • When learning about 'Sparkly Lights and Celebrations' we explore celebrations around the world and within our own families and cultures. Children enjoy talking about their own celebrations and traditions and often bring artefacts from home to share with their classes. • The 'Big Wide World' theme investigates a wide range of world issues including weather patterns, global issues, protecting our world, recycling and sustainability.

Basic Geographical Vocabulary for Years 1 and 2

Human

City, town, village, factories, farm, house, office, port, harbour, shop

Physical

Beach, cliff, coast, forest, hill, mountain, sea, ocean, river, soil, valley, vegetation, season, weather