



GEOGRAPHY

Year 1: Discovering our Local Area

WHY IS IT IMPORTANT?

We believe that it's important for children to understand where in the world they live and how this relates to other places. This learning starts in Year 1 with exploring their immediate locality. The children become familiar with the area surrounding our school and our place within the United Kingdom.

This topic builds on the children's existing knowledge about places familiar to them. It also offers lots of opportunities for building their vocabulary about everyday places.

KEY VOCABULARY

village	town
city	settlement
London	England
rural	urban

HOW COULD I HELP AT HOME?

Encourage your child to notice the world around them. What is this place like? Can you use all five of your senses to describe it? Involve children by reading maps together on family days out.

USEFUL LINKS

WEBLINKS

- [BBC Bitesize](#)
- [Arts and Culture](#)

BOOKS TO READ

- [Maps of the UK](#)
- [Buzz Geography](#)

PLACES TO GO

- [Enjoy St Albans](#)
 - [Herts Wildlife Trust](#)
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GEOGRAPHY

Year 2: Rainforests

WHY IS IT IMPORTANT?

Learning about rainforests ignites children's curiosity about the world. We want our children to become geographers who ask questions about the world they live in and seek out information. This topic provides plenty of opportunities for developing this. We also believe that it is essential for our children to learn about the issues facing our planet. It's important that they understand the concept of sustainable development. This topic allows us to explore the effect of humans on the rainforest.

This topic allows the children to build on the skills they learned in Year 1 but apply them in a new and less familiar context.

KEY VOCABULARY

village	country
city	continent
England	United Kingdom
Equator	Great Britain
tropical	rainforest
rainfall	vegetation
	temperature

HOW COULD I HELP AT HOME?

Talk to your child about which foods come from the rainforest. See if they can spot them when you visit the supermarket. What effect do you think sourcing these foods has on the rainforest?

USEFUL LINKS

WEBLINKS

- [BBC Bitesize](#)
 - [Rainforest Foundation](#)
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BOOKS TO READ

- [The Great Kapok Tree](#)
- [Rainforest Grew All Around](#)

PLACES TO GO

- [Visit the Amazon and Beyond exhibit at Paradise Wildlife Park.](#)
 - [Kew tropical greenhouses](#)
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GEOGRAPHY

Year 2: Coasts

WHY IS IT IMPORTANT?

We want our children to understand their place in the world. This involves learning about areas that are different to where they live. We focus on the British coast to allow the children to explore a contrasting area.

Many children have experience of the seaside. This allows them to bring their own concrete experiences to the topic. It is also a place that inspires a sense of excitement.

KEY VOCABULARY

coastal	beach
cliff	tide
natural	manmade
weather	

HOW COULD I HELP AT HOME?

Talk to your child about your experiences of the coast. Which coastlines have you visited together? Do you have any family members who live near the sea? Can you find these places on a map together?

USEFUL LINKS

WEBLINKS

- [BBC Bitesize](#)
- [DK Findout](#)

BOOKS TO READ

- [Katie Morag Stories](#)
- [Creature Features: Oceans](#)

PLACES TO GO

- [Dive into the world's five oceans with this virtual trip!](#)
 - [Visit the beach](#)
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GEOGRAPHY

GALLERY

WHY DO CHILDREN SAY?

'I liked learning about where people live in St Albans and where people live in other countries. It was fun learning about people who live in the Amazon Rainforest and how they make their homes.'

Year 1

'After the Geography assembly, I asked my mum if we can go litter picking on the beach in the summer because I want to make sure the animals are safe.'

Year 1

'I liked it when we looked at the different states in North America and used Chromebooks to do our own research in groups. We did a presentation to the class on what we had found out about our state.'

Year 3



