

Geography

All children – regardless of gender, starting point or background – will have the opportunity to engage with a high-quality geography education. They will be equipped with the knowledge, skills and vocabulary to understand about diverse places, people, resources and natural and human environments. Together with a deep understanding of the earth's key physical and human processes, we will provide children with explanations of how the earth's features are shaped over time. We intend to inspire a sense of enjoyment and curiosity about geography.

UK Regional Study – London

Summer 1

Igniting Prior Knowledge:

Year 3 (History - The Roman Empire)

Year 5 (European Rivers and Local Study)



Key Vocabulary:

- Economic Activity
- Land use patterns

New Knowledge:

- London was founded by the Romans shortly after their invasion of Britain in AD43.
- London's geography made it an ideal location for a settlement. The River Thames provided a water supply for drinking, cooking, washing and watering animals, and was also deep and wide enough for a port to be established and for sea bound vessels to pass through, enabling imports and exports to be traded with other countries. Its location on the floodplain of the Thames also meant that soils were fertile for farming, and that the land here was relatively flat.
- One of the first things the Romans did was to bridge the Thames, linking areas to the north and south of the river, again for trade and communications. The site also provided good features for defence: the meander in the River Thames for visibility and to slow down potential invaders and the surrounding relief (the North and South Downs), which also provided some shelter.
- Since the city was founded by the Romans, people have migrated here as settlers, invaders, economic migrants seeking a better quality of life, or refugees fleeing war or persecution. Immigrants have influenced the geography, economy, landscape and culture of London.
- London is Europe's largest city.
- London has a population of approximately 9 million people.
- London is the capital city of England and of the United Kingdom.
- Greater London is divided into 32 boroughs.
- Twelve of the boroughs (plus the City of London) are classified as Inner London, including The City of Westminster.
- London is one of the world's most ethnically diverse cities in the world, and is the most ethnically diverse area in England and Wales.
- There are extremes of wealth and of poverty in London. With people from Black and Ethnic Minority backgrounds are more likely to be in poverty.
- Some of the issues facing London and Londoners include: housing shortages (homelessness), transport, overcrowding and air pollution.
- One of the major challenges for London of being located on the River Thames is the flood risk.
- There are many systems of floodwalls, gates and dams to protect the city from flooding including the Thames Barrier.
- A political map is a map that shows the political features of an area, country, or region. It shows a region or country's different territorial borders or boundaries, the location of major areas or cities, and significant landmasses such as bodies of water.
- The Tube map (sometimes called the London Underground map) is a transport map of the lines, stations and services of the London Underground. It is a schematic map, as it does not necessarily represent geographical location accurately.
- You can find 6-figure grid references using the Grid Reference Tool on a digital map.
- There are two main types of grid reference: 4-figure – for example, 1945, this identifies a single kilometre square on an OS map and 6-figure – for example, 192454, identifies a 100 metre square within a single kilometre square on an OS map. The Grid reference is always for the bottom left-hand corner of the grid square you are in.
- You can orientate your map to the land (using a compass) so that you can use it to navigate.

