

Geography

Core vocabulary

Geographer, directional language (e.g. across, around, behind, beneath, next to, under, etc.), feature names (e.g. bench, building, field, gate, hall, hill, house, playground, pond, road, steps, tree, woodland, etc.), seasons (spring, summer, autumn, winter), weather words (e.g. sun, rain, snow, hot, dry, cold, wet, etc.), reflection, resilience, respect, resourcefulness, reasoning, responsibility, risk-taking.

These words are used all year and across all year groups in Geography lessons.

Class	Autumn		Spring		Summer	
	Term 1	Term 2	Term 3	Term 4	Term 5	Term 6
Class 1	Exploring maps above building car park church city directional language (e.g. across, around, behind, beneath, next to, under, etc.) feature names (e.g. bench, building, field, gate, hall, hill, house, playground, pond, road, steps, tree, woodland, etc.) field journey map path photograph place town village		Outdoor adventures autumn natural objects names (e.g. acorn, leaf, flower, twig, bark, feather, seed, etc.) observe senses words (e.g. look, feel, sour, sweet, loud, gentle, smell, touch, sound, colour, soft, hard, spiky, tickly, rough, etc.) spring summer weather adjectives (e.g. soft, hard, wet, bright, dark, freezing, etc.) weather words (e.g. sun, rain, snow, hot, dry, cold, wet, etc.) winter words related to the senses and the seasons (e.g. cold, frosty, hot, sunny, wet, etc.)		Around the world beach blizzard building bus stop church city cottage countryside desert explorer farm field flats forest hill ice lamp post land map mountain playground polar pond post box	



Vocabulary Progression

			postcard rainforest river roundabout scientists snow snowstorm tractor travel village waterfall weather
Class 2 CYCLE A	What is it like here? aerial photograph aerial view atlas city country distance features globe improve key land locate location map north place questionnaire sea survey symbol town village	What is the weather like in the UK? atlas direction east England Europe map north Northern Ireland place Scotland season south United Kingdom Wales weather west	What is it like to live by the coast? arch aquarium bay capital city city cliff coast coastline country data collection fieldwork island harbour location mudflat ocean pictogram pier sand dunes stack tally chart tourist town village



Vocabulary Progression

Class 2 CYCLE B	Why is our world wonderful? aerial photograph capital city continent country data collection fieldwork human feature key lake land landmark locate location map north physical feature ocean OS map river sample sea scale symbol tally chart	Would you prefer to live in a hot or cold place? arid climate compass continent country desert Equator globe grasslands human feature ice sheet land locate map mild ocean pack ice physical feature polar rain gauge rainforest rural savannah sea	What is it like to live in Shanghai? continent country different key human feature map physical feature similar symbol
Class 3 CYCLE A	Are all settlements the same? agricultural land capital city commercial land compare country border county dispersed facilities land use legend linear local	Where does my food come from? air freight carbon footprint consume distribution export fertiliser food bank food miles grant import pesticides produce	Why are rainforests important? analyse biome buttress roots canopy layer community data deforestation drought emergent layer enquiry equator forest floor



Vocabulary Progression

	memorial metro monument nucleated place of worship recreational land region residential land settlement transportation	qualitative quantitative reliability responsible trade sample size scale bar seasonal food source sustainability trade trend	global warming greenhouse gas indigenous peoples interpret lianas lines of latitude logging method mining present questionnaire quote risk route summarise Tropic of Capricorn Tropic of Cancer understorey layer vegetation vegetation belts
Class 3 CYCLE B	Why do people live near volcanoes? active volcano climate change composite volcano crust dormant volcano earthquake epicentre extinct volcano fault line fault-block mountain fertile soil fold mountain geothermal energy igneous rock index inner core outer core	What are rivers and how are they used? condensation delta estuary evaporation flooding floodplain groundwater irrigation leisure meander oxbow lake percolation precipitation river mouth source transpiration tributary	Who lives in Antarctica? climate climate zone compass points direction drifting ice hemisphere ice sheet ice shelf iceberg lines of latitude lines of longitude treaty



Vocabulary Progression

	magma magma chamber man-made rock mantle metamorphic rock minerals natural rock negative effects plate boundary positive effects pyroclastic flow sedimentary rock seismic waves shield volcano tectonic plate tsunami vent volcanic mountain volcanic springs	valley water cycle waterfall	
Class 4 CYCLE A	What is life like in the Alps? atlas climate climate change coniferous trees data deciduous trees enquiry fold mountain glacier hemisphere human feature land height latitude leisure longitude method mountain climate mountain range	Would you like to live in the desert? agriculture airstrip arid barren biome climate desert desertification drought flash flood mesa mining mushroom rock national park natural arch nature reserve rainfall ranching	Where does energy come from? biofuel coal consumption contour line crude oil dam emissions energy source hydropower natural gas non-renewable nuclear power Prime Meridian producer regenerate renewable replenish sea level



Vocabulary Progression

	OS map physical feature population questionnaire sea level recreational land use risk route scale temperate temperate forest tourism tourist vegetation	renewable energy salt flat sand dune sparse time zone tourist attraction vegetation weather	solar power time zone urban planner windpower six-figure grid reference
Class 4 CYCLE B	Why does the population change? air pollution birth rate cartogram climate climate change conclusions death rate deforestation densely populated digital technologies fossil fuels greenhouse gases impact improvements involuntary Likert scale migrants migration natural increase noise pollution population population density population distribution	Why do oceans matter? atmosphere biodegradable buffer coral bleaching coral reef decompose digital map disposable ecology ecosystem erosion geology habitat human footprint marine microplastics natural disaster ocean current policy renewable energy single use plastic species water cycle	Can I carry out an independent fieldwork enquiry? analyse audience city data data collection methods enquiry evidence impact improvement issue justify plot presenting process recommendation region risk route subjective viewpoint

Vocabulary Progression

	pull factors		
	push factors		
	qualitative		
	quantitative		
	refugee		
	region		
	sparsely populated		
	voluntary		