

Progression in Geography – Al-Islamia Institute for Education

Professor Alistair Bonnett describes geography as ‘the world discipline’, an unwieldy yet utterly necessary and very human project to seek order and meaning in the diversity and complexity of the world. Uniquely among academic subjects, geography has a roughly equal emphasis on science and social science.

In order to provide a coherence to the learning, Geography is separated into 4 disciplines:

- Locational Knowledge
- Place Knowledge
- Human and Physical Geography
- Geographical Skills and Fieldwork

The National Curriculum objectives for Geography are organised into expectations for the two Key Stages. The tables below outline how objectives are met within each year group:

National Curriculum Objectives	Year 1	Year 2
<i>Locational Knowledge</i>		
name and locate the world’s seven continents and five oceans		What are the oceans and continents of the world? What do I know about the world? What can I locate on a world map?
name, locate and identify characteristics of the four countries and capital cities of the United Kingdom and its surrounding seas	What is a capital city? What is special about England? Would you visit Scotland? What can we learn about Wales? Where and what is Northern Ireland?	What seas surround the UK? What are waves? What is a weather pattern? Can I create a weather forecast? What are key aspects of the UK?
<i>Place Knowledge</i>		
understand geographical similarities and differences through studying the human and physical geography of a small area of the United Kingdom, and of a small area in a contrasting non-European country	Where is Kenya?	
<i>Human and Physical Geography</i>		
identify seasonal and daily weather patterns in the United Kingdom and the location of hot and cold areas of the world in relation to the Equator and the North and South Poles		What is a weather pattern? What climate zone is the UK in? What are Polar and Desert climate zones? How do people live in Mediterranean and Tropical climate zones?
use basic geographical vocabulary to refer to key physical features, including: beach, cliff, coast, forest, hill, mountain, sea, ocean, river, soil, valley, vegetation, season and weather	Can I read simple coordinates on a map? Are our parks enough? What shops do we have in our locality? What is life like in a Kenyan city? What is life like on a Kenyan farm? What is a capital city? What is special about England? Would you visit Scotland?	

	What can we learn about Wales? Where and what is Northern Ireland?	
use basic geographical vocabulary to refer to key human features, including: city, town, village, factory, farm, house, office, port, harbour and shop	Can I read simple coordinates on a map? Are our parks enough? What shops do we have in our locality? What is life like in a Kenyan city? What is life like on a Kenyan farm? What is a capital city? What is special about England? Would you visit Scotland? What can we learn about Wales? Where and what is Northern Ireland?	
<i>Geographical Skills and Frameworks</i>		
use world maps, atlases and globes to identify the United Kingdom and its countries, as well as the countries, continents and oceans studied at this key stage	What is life like in a Kenyan city? What is life like on a Kenyan farm? What is a capital city? What is special about England? Would you visit Scotland? What can we learn about Wales? Where and what is Northern Ireland?	What seas surround the UK? What are the oceans and continents of the world? What are waves? What is a weather pattern? What do I know about the world? What are Polar and Desert climate zones? How do people live in Mediterranean and Tropical climate zones? What are key aspects of the UK? What can I locate on a world map?
use simple compass directions (North, South, East and West) and locational and directional language [for example, near and far; left and right], to describe the location of features and routes on a map	What is a compass? Can I use a treasure map of our school? Can I read simple coordinates on a map? Are our parks enough?	What is a weather pattern? What is a map key? Can I create a weather forecast? Can I apply compass knowledge?
use aerial photographs and plan perspectives to recognise landmarks and basic human and physical features; devise a simple map; and use and construct basic symbols in a key	Can I read simple coordinates on a map? Are our parks enough? What shops do we have in our locality? What is a capital city? What is special about England? Would you visit Scotland? What can we learn about Wales? Where and what is Northern Ireland?	What is a map key? How do cartographers make maps? What are key features in my school? What information can I record about our local area?
use simple fieldwork and observational skills to study the geography of their school and its grounds and the key human and physical features of its surrounding environment.	Can I create a geographical route around our school? What can I learn about our school? How do we get to school? Do we have lots of traffic around our school? Can I read simple coordinates on a map? Are our parks enough? What shops do we have in our locality?	What are key features in my school? What information can I record about our local area?

National Curriculum Objectives	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
<i>Locational Knowledge</i>				
locate the world's countries, using maps to focus on Europe (including the location of Russia) and North and South America, concentrating on their environmental regions, key physical and human characteristics, countries, and major cities	Where is Kumaon? Where is Europe? What can I learn about capital cities in Europe? What are the features of the 9 major biomes?	Can I identify major rivers of the world? What can maps and atlases tell us about the world?	How was the Grand Canyon formed? What is the topographical nature of the Grand Canyon region? What are the geological features of the Grand Canyon? Where is the Amazon Basin?	What can maps and atlases tell us about the world?
name and locate counties and cities of the United Kingdom, geographical regions and their identifying human and physical characteristics, key topographical features (including hills, mountains, coasts and rivers), and land-use patterns; and understand how some of these aspects have changed over time		What can I remember about maps? What is topography? How is land used around the school? What are satellite images and can I interpret one? What can a map tell me about the UK?	What are the regions of the UK? What are key topographical features of the UK?	What can I remember about maps? What is topography? How is land used around the school? What are satellite images and can I interpret one? What can a map tell me about the UK?
identify the position and significance of latitude, longitude, Equator, Northern Hemisphere, Southern Hemisphere, the Tropics of Cancer and Capricorn, Arctic and Antarctic Circle, the Prime/Greenwich Meridian and time zones (including day and night)	How are mountains formed?	What is a rainforest? Where are the rainforests of the world?		
<i>Place Knowledge</i>				
understand geographical similarities and differences through the study of human and physical geography of a region of the United Kingdom, a region in a European country, and a region within North or South America	Is my life different or similar to somebody else's? What is life like in Kumaon? What is the climate in the Himalayas? What are homes like in Kumaon?	What have we done to our rainforests? How can we combat climate change? How can I help combat climate change at home? How can others help save the rainforests?	What can I include on a map of the local area? What is life like in an urban area? What geographical features should I include about the school?	

	<p>How do Kumoani people learn?</p> <p>Am I lucky to have access to clean water?</p> <p>What can I report about Europe?</p>		<p>What is special about my local area?</p> <p>How was the Grand Canyon formed?</p> <p>What is the topographical nature of the Grand Canyon region?</p> <p>What are the geological features of the Grand Canyon?</p> <p>How is the land used for trade and economy in the Amazon Basin?</p> <p>What is the impact of deforestation in the Amazon Basin?</p>	
<i>Human and Physical Geography</i>				
<p>describe and understand key aspects of physical geography, including: climate zones, biomes and vegetation belts, rivers, mountains, volcanoes and earthquakes, and the water cycle</p>	<p>How are mountains formed?</p> <p>What mountains and rivers are in the European continent?</p> <p>How does climate effect life in Europe?</p> <p>What are physical and human geographical features in Europe?</p> <p>What are the features of the 9 major biomes?</p>	<p>What is a rainforest?</p> <p>Where are the rainforests of the world?</p> <p>How is a river formed?</p> <p>How does a river travel?</p> <p>What is the water cycle?</p> <p>How can two rivers differ?</p> <p>What are estuaries and deltas?</p>	<p>What are key topographical features of the UK?</p> <p>What are the biomes of the world?</p> <p>How do climates, nutrients and vegetation interact in an ecosystem?</p> <p>How do living things survive in a biome?</p> <p>How are ecosystems interdependent?</p> <p>How are living things in a biome placed?</p> <p>What are some of the threats that biomes face?</p> <p>How was the Grand Canyon formed?</p> <p>What is the topographical nature of the Grand Canyon region?</p>	<p>How do earthquakes happen?</p> <p>What happens when an earthquake strikes?</p> <p>Can I understand life in an earthquake zone?</p> <p>How do buildings survive an earthquake?</p> <p>How are volcanoes formed?</p> <p>Where in the world are volcanoes?</p> <p>What does a volcano look like on the inside?</p> <p>What is a volcanic eruption like?</p>

			<p>What are the geological features of the Grand Canyon?</p> <p>What are the geological features of my area (e.g., Botanical Gardens)?</p> <p>Where is the Amazon Basin?</p>	
<p>describe and understand key aspects of human geography, including: types of settlement and land use, economic activity including trade links, and the distribution of natural resources including energy, food, minerals and water</p>	<p>What is life like in Kumaon?</p> <p>What are homes like in Kumaon?</p> <p>How do Kumoani people learn?</p> <p>Am I lucky to have access to clean water?</p> <p>How does climate effect life in Europe?</p> <p>What are physical and human geographical features in Europe?</p> <p>What are physical and human geographical features in Russia?</p>	<p>What have we done to the rainforests?</p> <p>How can we combat climate change?</p> <p>How can I help combat climate change at home?</p> <p>How can others helps save the rainforests?</p>	<p>What can I include on a map of the local area?</p> <p>What is life like in an urban area?</p> <p>What geographical features should I include about the school?</p> <p>What is special about my local area?</p> <p>What are the regions of the UK?</p> <p>How is the land used for trade and economy in the Amazon Basin?</p> <p>What is the impact of deforestation in the Amazon Basin?</p>	
<i>Geographical Skills and Frameworks</i>				
<p>use maps, atlases, globes and digital/computer mapping to locate countries and describe features studied</p>	<p>Where is Kumaon?</p> <p>What can I learn about capital cities in Europe?</p>	<p>What is a rainforest?</p> <p>Where are the rainforests of the world?</p> <p>How is a river formed?</p> <p>What can maps and atlases tell us about the world?</p> <p>What can a map tell me about the UK?</p>	<p>What can I include on a map of the local area?</p> <p>How do climates, nutrients and vegetation interact in an ecosystem?</p> <p>How do living things survive in a biome?</p> <p>How are ecosystems interdependent?</p> <p>How are living things in a biome placed?</p> <p>What are some of the threats that biomes face?</p>	<p>How do earthquakes happen?</p> <p>What happens when an earthquake strikes?</p> <p>Can I understand life in an earthquake zone?</p> <p>How do buildings survive an earthquake?</p> <p>How are volcanoes formed?</p> <p>Where in the world are volcanoes?</p> <p>What does a volcano look like on the inside?</p>

			Where is the Amazon Basin? How is the land used for trade and economy in the Amazon Basin?	What is a volcanic eruption like? What can maps and atlases tell us about the world? What can a map tell me about the UK?
use the eight points of a compass, four and six-figure grid references, symbols and key (including the use of Ordnance Survey maps) to build their knowledge of the United Kingdom and the wider world		What can I remember about maps? What is topography? What can maps and atlases tell us about the world? What can a map tell me about the UK?		What can I remember about maps? What is topography? What can maps and atlases tell us about the world? What can a map tell me about the UK?
use fieldwork to observe, measure, record and present the human and physical features in the local area using a range of methods, including sketch maps, plans and graphs, and digital technologies.		How is land used around the school? What are satellite images and can I interpret one?		How is land used around the school? What are satellite images and can I interpret one?