

Geography: Information for Curriculum pages of school website

‘Geography education should inspire in pupils a curiosity and fascination about the world and its people that will remain with them for the rest of their lives.’

‘Teaching should equip pupils with knowledge about diverse places, people, resources and natural and human environments, together with a deep understanding of the Earth’s key physical and human processes.’

Purpose of Study, National Curriculum

How is Geography delivered at Bishopton?

Geography is delivered through the half termly topic theme. These topics have been selected to ensure a broad and balanced range of subjects across the year. Each class studies at least one topic that is geography based each school year.

Year 3: Geography based Topics

In the ‘**Rocks, Relics and Rumbles/Tremors**’ children learn about the features and characteristics of Earth's layers, including an exploration of volcanic, tectonic and seismic activity. They learn about types of rocks found in the Earth’s crust. They locate tectonic plate boundaries and the Ring of Fire. Children learn about the features of volcanoes. They explore the causes and consequences of earthquakes and tsunamis on communities. Children develop mapping skills by using; longitude, latitude, eight points of a compass and four/six figure grid references.

In the topic ‘**Flow**’ children study the physical and human features of rivers. They map the course of a river from source to mouth. They locate rivers of the world and research a selected river. Children learn about the impacts on rivers from human features such as; leisure activities, housing, travel, industry and farming. They consider the positive and negative environmental impacts this has on rivers. Learning is linked to available data, possible visits and fieldwork on our local River Avon.

Year 4: Geography based Topics

‘**Road Trip USA!**’ provides a study of North America. Children use atlases to locate the continent in relation to the equator, Northern and Southern Hemisphere and Tropics of Cancer and Capricorn. They identify all 50 states and state capitals. They explore the most famous physical features of the N America such as; the Mississippi River, Grand Canyon and Rocky Mountains and learn how people have used these areas. They research New York City and make comparisons with our locality. Children will study the Iroquois Native American tribe and learn how their traditional lifestyle was supported by the natural resources of their environment.

‘Misty Mountain Sierra’

In this topic children learn about the significant mountain ranges of the world. They identify the five major types of mountains and how they are formed. They use OS maps to locate the uplands of the UK and to compare the human and physical features of these locations. They interpret contour lines on OS maps to show the topography of an area. They learn about the different zonations of plants that grow at different altitudes on a mountain.