



Geography Progression for Key Stage 2

| Big Idea | Aspect | Year 3 | Year 4 | Year 5 | Year 6 |
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| Humankind | Human features and landmarks | Services include banks, post offices, hospitals, public transport and garages. Land use types include leisure, housing, industry, transport and agriculture. | Human features can be interconnected by function, type and transport links. | Transport networks can be tangible, such as rails, roads or canals, or intangible, such as air and sea corridors. These networks link places together and allow for the movement of people and goods. Transport networks are usually built where there is a high demand for the movement of people or goods. They run between places where journeys start or finish, such as airports, bus stations, ferry terminals or railway stations. | The distribution of and access to natural resources, cultural influences and economic activity are significant factors in community life in a settlement. |
| Humankind | Settlements & Land use | Different types of settlement include rural, urban, hamlet, town, village, city and suburban areas. A city is a large settlement where many people live and work. Residential areas surrounding cities are called suburbs. | Land uses include agricultural, recreational, housing and industry. Water systems are used for transport, industry, leisure and power. | Agricultural land use in the UK can be divided into three main types, arable (growing crops), pastoral (livestock) and mixed (arable and pastoral). An allotment is a small piece of land used to grow fruit, vegetables and flowers. A wide variety of crops are farmed in the UK, such as wheat, barley, oats, potatoes, other vegetables, fruits and oilseed rape. A wide variety of livestock | Natural resources include food, minerals (aluminium, sandstone and oil) energy sources (water, coal and gas) and water. |

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| | | | | are reared on farms in the UK, such as sheep, dairy cattle, beef cattle, poultry and pigs. | |
| Processes | Climate and Weather | Excessive precipitation includes thunderstorms, downbursts, tornadoes, waterspouts, tropical cyclones, extratropical cyclones, blizzards and ice storms. | Climatic variation describes the changes in weather patterns or the average weather conditions of a country or continent. | Changes to the weather and climate (temperature, weather patterns and precipitation) can affect land use. Farmers living in different countries adapt their farming practices to suit their local climate and landscape. | Climate and extreme weather can affect the size and nature of settlements, shelters and buildings, diet, lifestyle (settled or nomadic), jobs, clothing, transport and transportation links and the availability of natural resources. |
| Processes | Physical Processes | Volcanic eruptions and earthquakes happen when two tectonic plates push into each other, pull apart from one another or slide alongside each other. The centre of an earthquake is called the epicentre. | Water cannot be made. It is constantly recycled through a process called the water cycle. The four stages of the water cycle are evaporation, condensation, precipitation and collection. During the water cycle, water changes state due to heating and cooling | Soil fertility, drainage and climate influence the placement and success of agricultural land. | Physical processes that can affect a landscape include erosion by wind, water or ice; the deposition of stone and silt by water and ice; land movement, such as landslides and tectonic activity, such as earthquakes or volcanic eruptions. |
| Investigation | Geographical resources | Maps, globes and digital mapping tools can help to locate and describe significant geographical features. | An atlas is a collection of maps and information that shows geographical features, topography, boundaries, climatic, social and economic statistics of an area. | Aerial photography is used in cartography, land-use planning and environmental studies. It can be used alongside maps to find out detailed information about a place, or places. | Satellite images are photographs of Earth taken by imaging satellites. |
| Investigation | Data analysis | Primary data includes information gathered by observation and investigation. | Secondary data includes information gathered by geographical reports, surveys, maps, research, books and the internet. | Geographical data, such as demographics or economic statistics, can be used as evidence to support conclusions. | Data helps us to understand patterns and trends but sometimes there can be variations due to numerous factors (human error, incorrect equipment, different time frames, different sites, environmental conditions and unexplained anomalies). |
| Investigation | Fieldwork | The term geographical evidence relates to facts, | Fieldwork techniques, such as sketch maps, data collection | A geographical enquiry can help us to understand the physical | Representing, analysing, concluding, communicating, |

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| | | information and numerical data. | and digital technologies, can provide evidence to support and answer a geographical hypothesis. | geography (rivers, coasts, weather and rocks) or human geography (population changes, migration, land use, changes to inner city, urbanisation, developments and tourism) of an area and the impacts on the surrounding environment. | reflecting and responding are helpful strategies to answer geographical questions. |
| Materials | Natural and man made materials | There are three main types of rock found in the Earth's crust. They are sedimentary, igneous and metamorphic. Sedimentary rocks are made from sediment that settles in water and becomes squashed over a long time to form rock. They are often soft, permeable, have layers and may contain fossils. Igneous rocks are made from cooled magma or lava. They are usually hard, shiny and contain visible crystals. Metamorphic rocks are formed when existing rocks are heated by the magma under the Earth's crust or squashed by the movement of the Earth's tectonic plates. They are usually very hard and often shiny. | Rivers transport materials in four ways. Solution is when minerals are dissolved and carried in the water. Suspension is when fine, light material is carried. Saltation is when small pebbles and stones are carried along the riverbed. Traction is when large boulders and rocks are rolled along the riverbed. Different types of soil include clay, sandy, silty and loamy. | The topography of an area intended for agricultural purposes is an important consideration. In particular, the topographical slope or gradient plays a large part in controlling hydrology (water) and potential soil erosion. | The polar oceans are significantly colder than other world oceans. This influences the presence of sea ice, glaciers and icebergs. |
| Nature | Physical features | A volcano is an opening in the Earth's surface from which gas, hot magma and ash can escape. They are usually found at meeting points of the Earth's tectonic plates. When a volcano erupts, liquid | Mountains form over millions of years. They are made when the Earth's tectonic plates push together or move apart. Mountains are also formed when magma underneath the Earth's crust pushes large | North America is broadly categorised into six major biomes: tundra, coniferous forest, grasslands (prairie), deciduous forest, desert and tropical rainforest. South America has a vast variety of | The Arctic is a sea of ice surrounded by land and located at the highest latitudes of the Northern Hemisphere. It extends over the countries that border the Arctic Ocean, including Canada, the USA, Denmark, |

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| | | <p>magma collects in an underground magma chamber. The magma pushes through a crack called a vent and bursts out onto the Earth's surface. Lava, hot ash and mudslides from volcanic eruptions can cause severe damage.</p> <p>The Earth is made of four different layers. The inner core is made mostly of hot, solid iron and nickel, and the outer core is made of liquid iron and nickel. The mantle is made of solid rock and molten rock called magma. The crust is a thin layer of solid rock that is broken into large pieces called tectonic plates. These pieces move very slowly across the mantle.</p> | <p>areas of land upwards. There are five types of mountain: fold, fault-block, volcanic, dome and plateau.</p> | <p>biomes, including desert, alpine, rainforest and grasslands.</p> | <p>Russia, Norway and Iceland. Antarctica is a continent located in the Southern Hemisphere. Antarctica does not belong to any country. Physical features typical of the Arctic and Antarctic regions include glaciers, icebergs, ice caps, ice sheets, ice shelves and sea ice.</p> |
| Nature | Environment | <p>The Earth has five climate zones: desert, Mediterranean, polar, temperate and tropical.</p> | <p>Altitudinal zonation describes the different climates and types of wildlife at different altitudes on mountains. Examples include forests that grow at low altitudes and support a wide variety of plants and animals, tundra that is found at higher altitudes and supports plants and animals that are adapted to harsher environments, and the summits of mountains, which are usually covered in</p> | <p>The Earth has five climate zones: desert, Mediterranean, polar, temperate and tropical. Mountains have variable climates depending on altitude. A biome is a large ecological area on the Earth's surface, such as desert, forest, grassland, tundra and aquatic. Biomes are often defined by a range of factors, such as temperature, climate, relief, geology, soils and vegetation.</p> | <p>Climate change is the long-term change in expected patterns of weather that contributes to the melting of polar ice caps, rising sea levels and extreme weather. Climate change is caused by global warming. Human activity, such as burning fossil fuels, deforestation, habitat destruction, overpopulation and rearing livestock, all contribute to global warming.</p> |

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| | | | ice and snow and don't support any life. | | |
| Nature | Sustainability | A person's carbon footprint is the amount of carbon dioxide released into the atmosphere from their activities. People can reduce their carbon footprint by driving less, eating less meat, flying less and wasting less food and products. | The environment produces natural resources. Humans use some natural resources to make energy. Some natural resources cannot be replaced, like coal or oil. They are non-renewable. Some, like wind or flowing water, are renewable sources of energy. | Industries can make their manufacturing processes more sustainable and better for the environment by using renewable energy sources, reducing, reusing and recycling and sharing resources. | Natural resource management (NRM) manages natural resources, including water, land, soil, plants and animals. It recognises that people rely on healthy landscapes to live and aims to create sustainable ways of using land now and in the future. |
| Place and Space | World | Countries in Europe include the United Kingdom, France, Spain, Germany, Italy and Belgium. Russia is part of both Europe and Asia. | The North American continent includes the countries of the USA, Canada and Mexico as well as the Central American countries of Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, Costa Rica and Panama. The South American continent includes the countries of Brazil, Argentina, Chile, Colombia, Peru, Venezuela, Uruguay, Ecuador, Bolivia and Paraguay. | Major cities around the world include London in the UK, New York in the USA, Shanghai in China, Istanbul in Turkey, Moscow in Russia, Manila in the Philippines, Lagos in Nigeria, Nairobi in Kenya, Baghdad in Iraq, Damascus in Syria and Mecca in Saudi Arabia. | Geographical interconnections are the ways in which people and things are connected. |
| Place and Space | UK | Counties of the United Kingdom include Derbyshire, Sussex and Warwickshire. Major cities of the United Kingdom include London, Birmingham, Edinburgh, Cardiff, Manchester and Newcastle. | Significant rivers of the UK include the Thames, Severn, Trent, Dee, Tyne, Ouse and Lagan. Significant mountains and mountain ranges include Ben Nevis, Snowdon, Helvellyn, Pen y Fan, the Scottish Highlands and the Pennines. Topography is the arrangement of the natural and artificial physical features of an area. | Relative location is where something is found in comparison with other features. | A geographical pattern is the arrangement of objects on the Earth's surface in relation to one another. |

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| Place and Space | Location | Latitude is the distance north or south of the equator and longitude is the distance east or west of the Prime Meridian. | The Tropic of Cancer is 23 degrees north of the equator and Tropic of Capricorn is 23 degrees south of the equator. | The Prime (or Greenwich) Meridian is an imaginary line that divides the Earth into eastern and western hemispheres. The time at Greenwich is called Greenwich Mean Time (GMT). Each time zone that is 15 degrees to the west of Greenwich is another hour earlier than GMT. Each time zone 15 degrees to the east is another hour later. | The Northern Hemisphere is the part of Earth that is to the north of the equator. The Southern Hemisphere is the part of Earth that is to the south of the equator. The Prime Meridian is the imaginary line from the North Pole to the South Pole that passes through Greenwich in England and marks 0° longitude, from which all other longitudes are measured. |
| Place and Space | Position | The eight points of a compass are north, south, east, west, north-east, north-west, south-east and south-west. | The four cardinal directions are north (N), east (E), south (S) and west (W), which are at 90° angles on the compass rose. The four intercardinal (or ordinal) directions are halfway between the cardinal directions: north-east (NE), south-east (SE), south-west (SW) and north-west (NW). | Compass points can be used to describe the relationship of features to each other, or to describe the direction of travel. Accurate grid references identify the position of key physical and human features. | Invisible lines of latitude run horizontally around the Earth and show the northerly or southerly position of a geographical area. Invisible lines of longitude run vertically from the North to the South Pole and show the westerly or easterly position of a geographical area. |
| Place and Space | Maps | A four-figure grid reference contains four numbers. The first two numbers are called the easting and are found along the top and bottom of a map. The second two numbers are called the northing and are found up both sides of a map. Four-figure grid references give specific information about locations on a map. | A six-figure grid reference contains six numbers and is more precise than a four-figure grid reference. The first three figures are called the easting and are found along the top and bottom of a map. The second three figures are called the northing and are found up both sides of a map. Six-figure grid references give detailed information about locations on a map. | The geographical term 'relief' describes the difference between the highest and lowest elevations of an area. Relief maps show the contours of land based on shape and height. Contour lines show the elevation of the land, joining places of the same height above sea level. They are usually an orange or brown colour. Contour lines that are close together represent ground that is steep. Contour lines that are far apart show ground that is gently sloping or flat. | A geographical area can be understood by using grid references and lines of latitude and longitude to identify position, contour lines to identify height above sea level and map symbols to identify physical and human features. |

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| Comparison | Compare and Contrast | Geographical features created by nature are called physical features. Physical features include beaches, cliffs and mountains. Geographical features created by humans are called human features. Human features include houses, factories and train stations. | A physical feature is one that forms naturally and can change over time due to physical processes, such as erosion and weathering. Physical features include rivers, forests, hills, mountains and cliffs. An aspect of a physical feature might be the type of mountain, such as dome or volcanic, or the type of forest, such as coniferous or broad-leaved. | The seven continents (Africa, Antarctica, Asia, Australia, Europe, North America and South America) vary in size, shape, location, population and climate. | Climate is the long-term pattern of weather conditions found in a particular place. Climates can be compared by looking at factors including maximum and minimum levels of precipitation and average monthly temperatures. |
| Significance | Significant places | Significant volcanoes include Mount Vesuvius in Italy, Laki in Iceland and Krakatoa in Indonesia. Significant earthquake-prone areas include the San Andreas Fault in North America and the Ring of Fire, which runs around the edge of the Pacific Ocean and is where many plate boundaries in the Earth's crust converge. Over three-quarters of the world's earthquakes and volcanic eruptions happen along the Ring of Fire. | Significant mountain ranges include the Himalayas, Urals, Andes, Alps, Atlas, Pyrenees, Apennines, Balkans and Sierra Nevada. Significant rivers include the Mississippi, Nile, Thames, Amazon, Volga, Zambezi, Mekong, Ganges, Danube and Yangtze. | Farming challenges for developing countries include poor soil, disease, drought and lack of markets. Education, fair trade and technology are ways in which these challenges can be reduced. | North America, Europe and East Asia are the main industrial regions of the world due to a range of factors (access to raw materials, transportation, fresh water, power and labour supply). |
| Change | Geographical places | Significant geographical activity includes earthquakes and volcanic eruptions. These are known as natural disasters because they are created by nature, affect many people and cause widespread damage. | Rivers, seas and oceans can transform a landscape through erosion, deposition and transportation. | Settlements come in many different sizes and these can be ranked according to their population and the level of services available. A settlement hierarchy includes hamlet, village, town, city and large city. | Tourism is an industry that involves people travelling for recreation and leisure. It has had an environmental, social and economic impact on many regions and countries. |