

Berewood Primary School

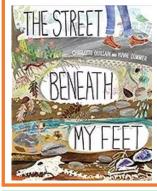


Curriculum Letter— Autumn Term —Year Three

Theme Overview

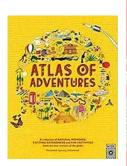
"Out and about" s a thematic unit with a key focus on geography. We will be naming and locating counties and cities of the United Kingdom, geographical regions and their identifying human and physical characteristics, using the eight points of a compass, four-figure grid references, symbols and keys; using fieldwork to observe, measure and record the human and physical features in the local area and developing an understanding of why the place our school is located is like it is.

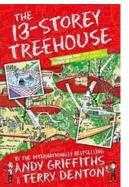
Recommended Reading...











What we should know...

Human or Physical?

Across the UK, there are many different geographical features. Most of these features can be classified as physical or human. Physical geographical features are things like rivers, mountains, lakes and valleys. They have been formed naturally over time, either by weather or by other physical



features, such as glaciers forming valleys.

Human geographical features are features that have been created by humans and how

humans have interacted with the landscape. Humans have affected the landscape by creating settlements and adapting where they live to grow food and farm animals.

How do I get there?

Maps have been vitally important to humans for thousands of years. A map allows us to travel to unknown places and helps us to understand the land we are travelling through. Navigation starts with the four main compass points of North, South, East and West. We can then expand these by adding four more compass points:- North East, North West, South East and South West, providing greater accuracy for directions. Ordnance Survey maps were developed in the 18th Century to map out all the physical and human geographical features of the Britain. They use a standard set of symbols so anyone can point out a church, mountain or hospital in an unknown area. Map reading is still an important skill, as we cannot always rely on a GPS signal!



Why is my school here?

There is always a reason why a town or a city is where it is. London and Paris are both built on the banks of a large river, which allowed them to trade goods around the country and out into the wider ocean. There are at least five capital cities on the River Danube, which flows through most of central Europe and out into the Black Sea. Many of the towns in Lancashire are there because of the Industrial Revolution and the heavy coal mining industry. Most of these towns were built around a factory or a mine and these communities needed facilities like schools and hospitals. It is also interesting to see how a settlement has changed as time goes on. You might notice on a map of your town that something no longer exists or that the town has expanded.

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Key Vocabulary you should discuss with your child

Compass: an instrument for showing direction, with a moving magnetic needle that points north

Fieldwork: research, exploration, practical work or observation conducted in the natural environment rather than the laboratory or classroom

GPS: abbreviation of "Global Positioning System," a public satellite navigation system designed and controlled by the U.S. Department of Defence that provides an accurate global time reference and is used to determine a precise location on Earth

Grid Reference: a map reference indicating a location in terms of a series of vertical and horizontal grid lines identified by numbers or letters l

Human Geography: looks at the impact and behaviour of people and how they relate to the physical world. **Industrialisation:** to bring industry into an area, creating places that rely on the production of goods in factories

Physical Geography: the branch of geography dealing with natural features

Settlement: a place where people have recently settled

Survey: to measure the shape, area, and elevation with special instruments so as to construct a map, plan, or description

Symbol: an object or picture that represents something else.

Topography: the shape of the earth's surface across an area or region The topography of an area includes the size and location of hills and dips in the land.

Knowledge and Understanding

To 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, rivers), and understand how some of these aspects have changed over time

To know and use the eight points of a compass, four- 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

To recognise how and why places are similar to and different from other places in the same country and elsewhere in the world

To use fieldwork to observe, measure and record human and physical features in the local area using a range of methods, including sketch maps, plans and graphs, and digital technologies

Please talk to your children about the information on this sheet. The more children discuss their learning the more likely they are to embed the learning to their memory. If you have any questions please don't hesitate to contact your child's class teacher.