



Great Great Britain



Key facts:

- The United Kingdom is made of four countries: England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland.
- The UK is located mainly on two large islands in the Atlantic Ocean.
- Approximately 70% of UK train journeys either start or finish in London!
- The oldest working canal in the UK is 1,900 years old.
- The longest canal in the UK is the Grand Union Canal.

Learning Journey—The children will be exploring the countries in the United Kingdom and investigate the significant historical and geographical changes in Great Britain. Alongside our topic we will also be learning about British values in PSHE.

The children will begin by exploring the countries within Great Britain and surrounding oceans and will be able to identify the countries that make Great Britain and some of the cities within Great Britain. We will also learn about how to use a map to locate cities and make our own maps. We will investigate what life is like in different countries in Great Britain to begin to form simple comparisons between the different places. We will explore some of the key features of a variety of places in Great Britain and will be able to use geographical language to describe human and physical features in comparison to where we live.

Following on from a geography focus we will then explore how British history has changed through time. We will begin by investigating how significant railways, canals and rivers are in shaping Great Britain. We will also be investigating how railways changed Victorian holidays compared to our holidays in the present.

Human geographical features: A feature that is built by a human and would not exist in nature without humans. For example, a house, railway.

Physical geographical features: A feature that is made by nature and not by humans. For example, seas, mountains, rivers.



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Need to know

England
Scotland
Wales
Northern Ireland
United Kingdom
Great Britain
countries
city
town
village
countryside
mountain
sea
river
map
timeline
features
location
cultures

Nice to know

capital city
London
Birmingham
Manchester
Edinburgh
Glasgow
Belfast
Dublin
Cardiff
summit
peaks
flow
canals
narrow boat

Super specialist

human geographical features
physical geographical features
aerial characteristics

<u>Links to Prior Learning</u>	<u>Key Texts</u>	<u>Links to Future Learning</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children have prior knowledge of continents and oceans from 'Exciting explorers' and 'Amazing Africa' topics. • Children have knowledge of human and physical features from previous topics. • Links to British values in PSHE. • Making observations of the world around us and understanding of different cultures. (EYFS people and communities) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • World Atlas- variety of maps • 'We are Britain!' by Benjamin Zephaniah and Prodeepta Das • 'A street through time' by DK and Steve Noon • 'Katie in London' by James Mayhew • 'Rivers of the United Kingdom' by Catherine Brereton • 'Coming to England' by Floella Benjamin and Diane Ewen • 'No such thing as Nessie!' by Chani McBain and Kirsteen Harris-Jones 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Future topics taught in Year 3/4 like 'The Roman Empire' • Continents and countries • Science topics about seasons and weather. • Developing geographical enquiry skills for lower KS2 e.g. begin to draw conclusions between two locations using pictures.

Family Fun

- Explore Google Earth. Can you find the largest cities in the United Kingdom? London? Belfast? Edinburgh? Cardiff?
- Look at a map of the United Kingdom, can you label the cities on a map?
- Explore the UK on the BBC bitesize website: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zp8r4xs/year/z7s22sg>
- Use Espresso to explore the 'explore the coast' module: https://app.discoveryeducation.co.uk/learn/channels/channel/f7a11ce8-0a78-48fc-a3c6-f91ef0ae7493?embed=false&embed_origin=false
- Visit your local library or on online library to find out some facts about Great Britain. Challenge: Can you make a fact file?