

Geography knowledge ladder

In year...	I need to...
Year 6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Know how physical and human geographical features can affect the human activity within a location. ▪ Understand some of the reasons for geographical similarities and differences between countries. ▪ Know how locations around the world are changing and explain some of the reasons for change.
Year 5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Know some major cities within countries in Europe, North America and South America. ▪ Know the position and significance of latitude, longitude, the Tropics of Cancer and Capricorn, Arctic and Antarctic Circle, the Prime/Greenwich Meridian. ▪ Have a more detailed understanding of physical geography: Rivers, coasts, the water cycle, climate zones, biomes and vegetation belts.
Year 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Know the names, locations, countries and some capital cities within Europe, North America and South America. ▪ Have an understanding of time zones. ▪ Have a more detailed understanding of an aspect of physical geography: mountains, volcanoes and earthquakes.
Year 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Know the names and locations of countries in Europe including Russia. ▪ Know the names and locations of counties and cities of the United Kingdom ▪ Know that the world is split into the Northern Hemisphere and Southern Hemisphere
Year 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Know the names and locations of the 5 oceans. ▪ Know the names and locations of the UK's capital cities and surrounding seas. ▪ Know the difference between human and physical geographical features.
Year 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Know the names and locations of the 7 continents. Understand that people's lives can be different in different parts of the world. ▪ Know the names and locations of the UK's countries. ▪ Know that places near the Equator are often hot and places close to the poles are often cold.
FS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Describe their immediate environment using knowledge from observation, discussion, stories, non-fiction texts, and maps • Explain some similarities and differences between life in this country and life in other countries, drawing on knowledge from stories, non-fiction texts and – when appropriate – maps • Know some similarities and differences between the natural world around them and contrasting environments, drawing on their experiences and what has been read in class • Understand some important processes and changes in the natural world around them, including the seasons

*note: the 'top 3' ladder shows **some** of the key knowledge that children need in Geography per year group and how it is built on each year. This is not **everything** they need but should support your progression and be a useful tool for teachers.*