



## Whole School Developing Map Skills

Maps have long been a source of interest and intrigue. Early maps were largely pictorial and often inaccurate. Over the years, maps have become more and more accurate, with the use of satellite imagery. Although maps are now widely available online, paper maps are still highly valued. A secure understanding of maps underpins all areas of the geography curriculum. This documents teaches children the skills so that they can apply them in their geography programme of study.

The earlier units can be used by older pupils too, to ensure they have the baseline knowledge necessary for more advanced map reading activities. Opportunities for retrieval of knowledge from previous units at the start of each unit should be used.

### • What is Geography?

Geography is the study of places and the relationships of people and their environment. Geography seeks to understand where things are found, why they are there, and how they develop and change over time.

**Human geography:** Use geographical vocabulary to refer to features on a map or plan (city, town, village, factory, farm, house, port, harbour, shop).

**Physical geography:** Use geographical vocabulary to refer to features on a map (beach, cliff, coast, forest, hill, mountain, sea, ocean, river, soil, valley, vegetation).

### • Why is it important that we learn about Geography?

• Geography encourages us to become active citizens who are engaged with the world around them.

• By learning about different cultures, societies, and environments, we are better equipped to understand human's impact on the planet and tackle global issues, such as climate change, poverty, and inequality.

### • Locational knowledge:

KS1: name and locate the world's seven continents and five oceans, name, locate and identify characteristics of Jersey, its parishes and main settlements, the other Channel Islands and the surrounding waters.

KS2: Locate the world's countries using maps, concentrating on environmental regions, key physical and human characteristics, countries, and major cities. Name and locate countries and cities of the UK, geographical regions and key human and physical characteristics.

### • Place knowledge:

KS1: understand geographical similarities and differences through studying the human and physical geography of Jersey, and of a small area in a contrasting country.

KS2: understand geographical similarities and differences through the study of human and physical geography of Jersey, a region of the United Kingdom, a region in a European country, and a region within one other continent

### • Geographical skills and fieldwork: Interpret a range of sources of geographical information, including maps, diagrams, globes, aerial photographs. Communicate geographical information in a variety of ways, including through maps.

KS1: use world maps, atlases and globes to identify Jersey and the Channel Islands together with their position in relation to the United Kingdom and its countries, France, and the countries, continents and oceans studied at this Key Stage. Use simple compass directions (North, South, East and West) and locational and directional language (for example, near and far; left and right), to describe the location of features on a map. Devise a simple map, and use and construct basic symbols in a key.

KS2: Name and locate countries and cities of the United Kingdom. Use the eight points of a compass, four and six-figure grid references, symbols and key (including the use of Ordnance Survey maps) to build their knowledge of Jersey, the Channel Islands, the United Kingdom and the wider world.

Year 4

## Ordnance Survey Maps

This unit focuses on Ordnance Survey maps and basic map reading skills. After examining a map of the local area and discussing what they can see on it, pupils are taught to read four-figure grid references. Pupils are also introduced to the geographical concept of scale, and map symbols. They learn why maps require the use of symbols and a map key. The lesson ends with a game of bingo using map symbols maps.

### Locational Knowledge

- Initially locate local area on a map and a globe.
- Google Earth to be used in conjunction with globes and maps to zoom in from a '3D globe' to a '2D map' of the local area.
- Locate a range of places and landmarks on Ordnance Survey maps of the UK.

### Place Knowledge

Learn about the geographical features of specific locations on maps.

### Human and Physical Geography

Human and physical geography: locate human and physical features on OS maps and consider the symbols for these features in the map key

### Geographical Skills and Fieldwork

Interpret maps and aerial photographs. Communicate geographical information through maps. Use the eight points of a compass, four and six-figure grid references, symbols and key to build their knowledge of the United Kingdom.

### Key questions and ideas:

**Learning objective:** Can I learn why map symbols are used and to recognise the OS map symbols?

### Key ideas

- Ordnance Survey is Britain's mapping agency. OS create up to date and accurate maps depicting the landscape's human and physical features.
- All OS maps use the same symbols, which are included in a key so people using the map know what each symbol represents. The symbols represent both human features and physical features.

### Key Questions

- How can we use maps to find out about the local area?
- What is an Ordnance Survey map?
- How are places, human and physical features represented on OS maps?
- What symbols are used on OS maps?
- How can we find places on OS maps?

### Additional Resources

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A range of maps for different uses at a range of scales: bus, tube, road, rail etc.

### Notes for the teacher:

Pupils look at a range of maps and discuss which is the most useful for a range of purposes. Consider human and physical features and sort the maps accordingly. Pupils find the school and their homes on OS maps. They use four-figure grid references to locate places on an OS map.

Pupils then play a game of map symbols bingo, to develop their knowledge of OS map symbols. Review the symbols learned. Play map symbols snap on the BBC website (see web links).