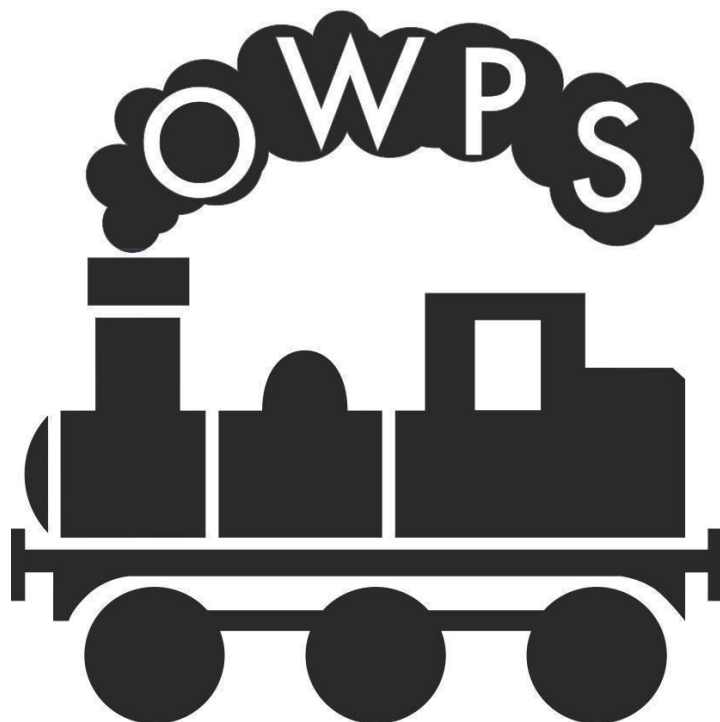


Orton Wistow Primary School



What does Geography look like?

At Orton Wistow, we teach the children a variety of geography skills across the years constantly building on previous skills and knowledge. Each term, every Year Group has their geography topic to focus on within six lessons. We want to create confident geographers who build on map skills, have a good understanding of the world around us and improve their knowledge of human and physical geography.

This document will outline how geography is taught across our school.

B. Strike
July 2022

Updated June 2023

Geography Mapping Overview

Below are the topics taught across the years.

	Autumn	Spring	Summer
Foundation	Ourselves – Investigating the Local Area	Frosty and Frozen	Transport and Occupations – Life in Other Countries
Year 1		Here, There and Everywhere	Seaside
Year 2	Oceans and Continents	Maps and Castles	
Year 3	Land Use	Rainforests	The UK
Year 4	Extreme Earth	Water	All Around the World
Year 5	Somewhere to Settle	Exploring Eastern Europe	Marvellous Maps
Year 6	Trading and Economics	Our Changing World	The Amazing Americas

How We Teach Geography

Geography skills for the children at Orton Wistow begin to develop from Foundation Stage, these are built upon and improved throughout the years. We hope to provide the children with an understanding of geography by using their own investigative skills to compare and contrast to their local area and experiment what happens in geographical situations.

Within the National Curriculum, geography covers locational knowledge, human and physical geography and building on geographical skills. All of these areas are taught in every year. Predominantly this revolves around building an awareness of the world, understanding places and our local area. The awareness of our local area is learnt through fieldwork (detailed later).

The children in Foundation Stage begin to learn early geography skills through the Understanding the World area of the FS curriculum. By the end of the year, they should have achieved their Early Learning Goal of gaining a better understanding of people, culture and communities. This includes being able to describe their immediate environment using observations and discussions; knowing some similarities and differences between religious and cultural communities; and explaining some comparisons to life in this country compared to other countries. Foundation use a variety of ways to learn geography including stories, maps and free flow playtimes to further develop their understanding of the world.

Human and physical features within geography are learnt from a young age starting simply with seasonal differences in countries and recognising cities, towns and villages; within Key Stage 2 this knowledge is expanded on by learning about climate zones and biomes, and types of settlements and land use for example. The children at Orton Wistow also learn to build their geographical skills with the use of atlases and globes within all years. This begins with recognising certain continents and oceans to identifying physical features on a map. Key Stage 2 develop compass knowledge including grid-references, latitude and longitude.

When planning, to keep the teaching of geography cohesive across the years, within each topic there are five or six objectives to be achieved across the term.

Geography is also incorporated into many outdoor activities, particularly our orienteering course within the PE curriculum. This helps the children build upon map skills and use other geographical knowledge within the school grounds. There are also many links to the Science curriculum, for example in Year 4 where the learning of States and Matter connects to the Geography topic of The Water Cycle. This builds a cohesive understanding for the children across multiple subjects.

Provision for children with SEND will be in accordance with the school SEND Policy and SEND Information Report. For example, In Geography, children might use a writing scaffold to explain their geographical reasoning or use resources to enhance their skills more frequently. Key learning for both SEND and bottom 20% children is highlighted on both the curriculum 2.0 documents and knowledge organisers.

Fieldwork Schedule

In order to develop a curiosity about the world, it is important for children to relate to the local area around them. At Orton Wistow, we have developed a Fieldwork Schedule where the local area can be incorporated into every year group to enhance this curiosity to learn about geography around them.

In Years 1 and 2, the fieldwork is used to improve observational skills to study the geography of the school and its grounds and the key human and physical features of its surrounding environment. Moving into Key Stage 2, Years 3 and above expand on these skills to use fieldwork to observe, measure, record and present the human and physical features in the local area using a range of methods, including sketch maps, plans and graphs, and digital technologies.

Each Year group has a designated topic in which to complete this fieldwork as shown below:

	Autumn	Spring	Summer
Foundation	Ourselves		
Year 1		Here, There and Everywhere	

Year 2		Maps and Castles	
Year 3	Land Use		
Year 4		Water	
Year 5			Marvellous Maps
Year 6			The Amazing Americas

Assessment

The assessment of geography is solely on Insight. With each topic, there are five or six objectives that need to be covered within the term. The Insight statements detail key areas the children will learn in each topic. Learning walks and book scrutinies will also take place to make sure geography is taught cohesively across the year groups. These will be completed by the Geography Lead.

Resources

The children have access to a variety of maps and resources around the school. Each Key Stage has their own globe to use in classes. 30 atlases are also available to help build map skills.

Along the school corridors, there are maps both local and national for children to view. These can be viewed during lessons, for example to help with the understanding of our local area on fieldwork walks or to help a better understanding of the world around us.



