

Geography Year 1 overview rationale

In Autumn 1, Year 1 will start developing their knowledge of the United Kingdom and how it is divided into four countries, using atlases and maps to help them. They will also learn that the world has five different oceans and seven continents. They will start to look at basic weather patterns, focusing on hot and cold areas in the world.

In Spring 2, they build on this learning by further exploring places within the UK, particularly Blackburn and surrounding towns/areas. They will build up their vocabulary knowledge of human and physical features by comparing Blackburn and Blackpool. In this unit they will also build on their learning of oceans. They will learn that they are large bodies of water that are made up of different seas by investigating which seas surround the UK and how these seas are useful to us in terms of transport and leisure.

In Summer 1, Year 1 will revisit weather patterns. This time comparing seasonal weather in an area and exploring the reasons for differences in weather. They will also revisit exploring their local area. This time they will use simple maps and aerial photographs showing the local area and carry out fieldwork to observe which human features are around them. Vocabulary relating to directional language will be used and they will consider how to direct someone to get from one local place of interest to another. The use of symbols in maps will be explored and finally they will create a simple map using symbols in a key to depict important areas.