

North America

A Geography Based Topic

What do you need to know before this topic?

Understand the UK is split into different counties.

Name and locate all seven continents and five oceans

Understand the difference between physical and human geography.

Identify and name a number of countries in Europe and South America.

Name the main mountains and rivers in the world (e.g. the Mississippi)

Understand how to read and use a map and locate key features.

Key Assessment Questions

How many countries are there in North America?

Name five countries in North America.

What is a biome? Name one.

Explain two benefits of the Panama Canal.

How is Canada similar to Scotland?

How is Canada different to Scotland?

Sticky Knowledge

There are 23 countries in North America.

North America contains Central America and the Caribbean.

Countries in North America include USA, Canada, Mexico and Panama.

The Panama Canal makes worldwide trade quicker and cheaper. It is a trade link between Pacific and Atlantic countries.

Biomes are large regions of the globe with a certain climate and certain types of living things (tropical, temperate, polar and arid) .

There are different biomes in North America including taiga forest, desert and temperate.

Canada and Scotland are both mountainous and sparsely populated; the majority of people in each country speak English but a significant portion speak their second language (French and Scots).

Canada is significantly larger than Scotland and has a larger population and economy.

Key Vocabulary

human geography, physical geography, North America, South American, continent, equator, Tropic of Cancer, Tropic of Capricorn, peninsula, isthmus, Hoover Dam, Grand Canyon, Panama Canal, Niagara Falls, Hubbard Glacier, Death Valley, Olympic National Park, Mount McKinley, Great Lakes, Mississippi River, Rocky mountains, Mojave Desert, trade, tourism, population, natural resources, energy resources.

Key Skills

-On a world map locate the main countries in North America.

-Identify the main environmental regions, key physical and human characteristics and major cities in North America.

-Name and locate key topographical features.

-Compare regions of the globe. Understand some of the reasons for similarities and differences.

-Describe and understand key aspects of physical geography, including: climate zones, biomes and vegetation belts

-Describe and understand key aspects of human geography, including: types of settlement and land use, economic activity including trade links, and the distribution of natural resources including energy, food, minerals and water

-Use maps, atlases, globes and digital/computer mapping to locate countries and describe features studied

Curriculum Drivers

Caring Community

I am the child who can understand that we all have a responsibility to learn about and care for our natural environment.

Learning & Leading

I am the child who can understand that knowledge about the planet, different environments and cultures, enables me to respect and protect it.

British & Global Values

I am the child who can respect the differences and similarities across different parts of the world and compare them to my own environment - growing my understanding.

Wellbeing & Being Well

I am the child who can understand that tourism has both advantages and disadvantages, and we should ensure we are considerate when we travel to new places.

Enterprise & Effort

I am the child who can appreciate that the Panama Canal is an impressive piece of engineering and has significant benefits for global trade.

Identity and Uniqueness

I am the child who can appreciate different cultures and reflect on the uniqueness of my own culture.

Writing

Narrative –Inspired by the character Kissin’ Kate Barlow from Holes by Louis Sachar.
Persuasive text – Tourism brochure encouraging visitors to the North America.
Narrative – Using dialogue to move on a story

Maths

Number & Place Value
Four Operations
Order of Operations

Science

Light
Light travels in straight lines. Objects are seen because they give out or reflect light into the eye. Shadows have the same shape as the objects that cast them

Art

Painting and Mixed Media: Artist Studies
David Hockey - My Parents
Paul Rego – The Dance
John Singer Sargent – Gassed
Fiona Rae

RE

Christianity
God as Trinity:
Father, Son and Holy Spirit

PE

Netball

Computing

Learning about computing networks including searching the web.

PSHE - Jigsaw

Being Me in My World:
Being a Global Citizen
Creating our Learning Charter

French

Rooms in the home
Describing rooms in a home and what is done in each

Music

Victorian Street Cries
Creating and performing a Victorian street cry