Geography – Knowledge Progression

Big Idea	Concept	Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Humankind	Human features and landmarks	Maps and plans are pictures or drawings of a place or journey. Covered	Human features have been made by people and include houses, bridges and roads. A landmark can be made by humans or nature. They mark important places and can often be seen from far away. A landmark can help you find your location. Some landmarks, such as places of worship, provide a service for the community. Some landmarks tell us something about the past such as statues and monuments. Buckingham Palace, London Eye and Big Ben are examples of significant landmarks in London.	Human features have been made by people and include houses, bridges and roads. People use human features for work, travel, entertainment and living in.	Ancient human features include standing stones, henges, Cursus monuments and long barrows. Ancient human features were built as monuments, burial grounds and for religious ceremonies.	Britain's railway network links major towns and cities across Britain and are sometimes linked to ferry interchanges and airports	Transport networks link places together and allow for the movement of people and goods. Transport networks are usually built where there is a high demand for the movement of people or goods. The journey that food travels from producer to consumer is measured in food miles. A motorway is a main road built for fast travel over long distances. In the United Kingdom motorways run north to south and east to west across the country. Motorways connect towns and cities and provide transport links between other transport networks. For example between airports or ferry ports. Motorways allow people and goods to move quickly around the country.	The distribution of and access to natural resources, cultural influences and economic activity are significant factors in community life in a settlement.

	Settlements and land use		The three main types of human settlement include cities, towns and villages. A city is the largest type of settlement with the most houses, people, shops and other buildings. London is a city, the capital of England and the largest settlement in the United Kingdom.	Tourism is an industry that helps people travel away from home for pleasure.	Cities are characterised by factors such as size, population, location and their physical and human features. There are five main types of land use including agricultural, commercial, recreational, residential and transportation.	A river is a natural flowing watercourse. A river can be used by humans for farming, leisure and transport. A canal is a managed waterway. In Britain, canals were built during the Industrial revolution to transport raw goods. The use of canals declined as railways and roads were developed. Today, canals are mostly used for recreation and leisure.	Agricultural land use in the UK can be divided into three main types, arable (growing crops), pastoral (livestock) and mixed (arable and pastoral). An allotment is a small piece of land used to grow fruit, vegetables and flowers.	Natural resources include food, minerals (aluminium, sandstone and oil) energy sources (water, coal and gas) and water.
Processes	Climate and weather	Spring weather is changeable. It can be warm, cold, sunny, rainy and even snowy.	There are four seasons in the UK: spring, summer, autumn and winter. Each season has its own typical weather pattern.	Hot places are close to the equator and cold places are far away from the equator. Temperate places are between the hot and cold places. A temperate place is never extremely hot or extremely cold. The UK has a temperate climate.		Countries in the continents of North and South America have contrasting climates, which means that the typical weather conditions can be very different.	Changes to the weather and climate (temperature, weather patterns and precipitation) can affect land use.	Climate change can intensify natural weather events such as storms, heatwaves, floods, sandstorms and droughts to make them more extreme and more destructive. The poorest countries are the most vulnerable to the effects of extreme weather due to little industry, farming and money and are particularly affected by the impact of climate change. Developing countries often have widespread poverty and ineffective governments. They cannot prepare as well for extreme

								weather events and lack the money to recover quickly afterwards.
	Physical processes	All types of weather can affect the environment and how we use it. For example, on sunny days, people might go to the park or the coastline. On cold, icy days, roads and rivers can be frozen.	Weather is a physical process.	Erosion is a physical process. Erosion is caused by wind and water, including waves, floods, rivers and rainfall.	Earthquakes happen when two tectonic plates push into each other, pull apart from one another or slide alongside each other. The centre of an earthquake is called the epicentre.	Water is constantly recycled through the water cycle. The four stages of the water cycle are: evaporation, condensation, precipitation and collection	Soil fertility, drainage and climate influence the placement and success of agricultural land.	The Global Climate Risk Index uses data from countries around the world to analyse which countries are most affected by extreme weather events.
Investigation	Geographical resources	Maps and photographs can be used to show key features of the local environment.		An aerial photograph can be vertical (an image taken directly from above) or oblique (an image taken from above and to the side).	Maps, globes and digital mapping tools can help to locate and describe significant geographical features such as countries, oceans and seas.	An atlas is a collection of maps and information that shows geographical features, topography, boundaries, climatic, social and economic statistics of an area.	People use map symbols, six-figure grid references and compass directions to analyse and compare places and features on Ordnance Survey and other maps.	A scale on a map is written as a ratio, for example, 1cm:800km. Distances on maps can be measured using grid lines, the scale, a ruler, a finger, string and the scale bar.
	Data analysis	Geographical information can be collected by using simple tally charts and pictograms.	Data is information. Data can be numbers or measurements.	Data can be recorded in different ways, including tables, charts and pictograms	Primary data refers to the first-hand data gathered by observation and investigation.	Secondary data refers to second hand information gathered by reports, published surveys, maps, books and the internet.	Demographic and economic statistics can help geographers to draw conclusions.	Data helps us to understand patterns and trends but sometimes there can be variations due to numerous factors (human error, incorrect equipment, different time frames, different sites, environmental conditions and unexplained anomalies).
	Fieldwork	The adults who work at school have different jobs. The local environment has lots of different features including rivers, roads, lakes, woods, canals and railways.	Field work includes observing and collecting data (information) about people, places and natural environments.	Fieldwork can help to answer questions about the local community.		Fieldwork can help inform and answer a geographical hypothesis. Methods that help draw conclusions about a hypothesis include surveying, studying maps, collecting and analysing numerical data.	A geographical enquiry can help us to understand the physical geography (rivers, coasts, weather and rocks) or human geography (population changes, migration, land use, changes	

							to inner city, urbanisation, developments and tourism) of an area and the impacts on the surrounding environment.	
Materials	Natural and human-made materials	Natural materials include wood, stone and sand. Human-made materials include metal, plastic, glass and fabric. Materials can be used to build and make things.	A material is something used to build or make something else. Natural materials are dug out of the ground, grown or taken from a living thing. Human-made materials are often made from natural materials but have been changed to have different properties.	Materials found in the environment can be natural (rock, stone, water, sand, soil, water and clay) and human-made (brick, glass, plastic and concrete). Natural and human-made materials are used to make human features.			Farming is affected by the climate (typical weather), topography (shape of the land) and soil type of the farm's location	
Nature	Physical features	Large physical features include rivers, mountains, oceans and the coastline	Physical features are made by nature. They include hills, mountains, beaches and oceans.	Physical features include beaches, stacks, cliffs, arches, rivers, lakes and woodland. A stack is a physical feature of a coastline. Stacks are formed when waves crash against the rocks of a cliff face. The force of the water causes the rocks to collapse, forming stacks.	A volcano is a mountain or hill with an opening in the Earth's crust that allows magma, gas and ash to reach the surface. Volcanoes are either active, dormant or extinct. There are four main types of volcano: shield, stratovolcano, cinder cone and lava dome. The two types of volcanic eruption are effusive and explosive. When an explosive eruption occurs hot air, ash and rocks rush downhill like an avalanche. This is called a pyroclastic flow and is	Mountains are made when the Earth's tectonic plates push together, move apart or when magma underneath the Earth's crust pushes large areas of land upwards. There are five types of mountain: fold, fault-block, volcanic, dome and plateau.	North America is broadly categorised into six major biomes. These are the Tundra biome, Coniferous forest biome, Prairie biome, Deciduous forest biome, Desert biome, and the Tropical rainforest biome. South America includes a broad equatorial zone in the north to a narrow sub-Arctic zone in the south.	The six main physical features of a polar landscape are: iceberg, glacier, mountain, ice field, tundra and boreal forest.

					extremely dangerous. The Earth is made of four different layers: inner core, outer core, mantle and crust.			
	Sustainability		People can protect the environment by preserving woodlands and hedgerows, recycling and getting rid of waste carefully.	Conservation activities include reducing, reusing and recycling, composting, saving water and saving energy. Conservation activities protect the environment for people in the future.		Renewable energy includes solar power, wind power, hydropower, geothermal energy and bioenergy. Humans use natural resources to make energy. Natural resources such as coal and oil cannot be replaced and are non-renewable.		
	Environment	Litter has a harmful effect on the areas where we live, work and play. People need to put their rubbish into the bin and not throw it on the ground.		The local environment can be improved by picking up litter, planting flowers and improving amenities.	The Earth has five climate zones: desert, Mediterranean, polar, temperate and tropical.		Climate zones are areas with distinct climates, weather patterns, latitude, plants and animals. Vegetation belts are areas where certain species of plant grow. Biomes are large areas that share similar climates, vegetation belts and animal species. They also include aquatic areas.	Climate change effects the water, temperature, greenhouse gases and weather of a biome. The four main causes of climate change are: burning fossil fuels, deforestation, habitat destruction, overpopulation and rearing livestock. Climate change affects the water, temperature, greenhouse gases and weather of a biome. The four main causes of climate change are: burning fossil fuels, deforestation, overpopulation and rearing livestock.

Place and space	World	People live in and visit lots of different places around the world. Globes and maps can show us the location of different places around the world. A globe is a 3-D model of the Earth. Maps show 2-D images of places.	A continent is a very large area of land. The world's seven continents are Africa, Antarctica, Asia, Australia, Europe, North America and South America. The five oceans are the Arctic, Atlantic, Indian, Pacific and Southern Ocean.	An ocean is a large sea. The United Kingdom is an island surrounded by the Atlantic Ocean, English Channel, Irish Sea and North Sea. Other world seas include the Black Sea, the Red Sea and the Caspian Sea.	Europe is a continent in the Northern Hemisphere. It has over 50 countries, including transcontinental countries such as Russia. European countries include France, Greece, Italy, Romania and Russia.	The North American continent includes the countries of: USA, Canada, Mexico as well as the Central American countries of: Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, Costa Rica and Panama. The South American continent includes the countries of: Brazil, Argentina, Chile, Colombia, Peru, Venezuela, Uruguay, Ecuador, Bolivia and Paraguay. Major cities in Noth America include Washington and New York in the United States of America and Toronto in Canada. Major cities in central America include San José in Costa Rica, San Salvador in El Salvador and Managua in Nicaragua. Major cities in South America include Sao Paulo in Brazil, Buenos Aires in Argentina, Bogota in Colombia and Lima in Peru.	Major cities around the world include London in the UK, New York in the USA, Shanghai in China, Istanbul in Turkey, Moscow in Russia, Manila in the Philippines, Lagos in Nigeria, Nairobi in Kenya, Baghdad in Iraq, Damascus in Syria and Mecca in Saudi Arabia.	The Axis Powers were led by Germany's Adolf Hitler. The Allied Powers were led by Great Britain's prime ministers Neville Chamberlain and then Winston Churchill.
	UK		The United Kingdom (UK) is a union of four countries: England, Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales.	England has many famous physical features, such as the White Cliffs of Dover in the south, Cheddar Gorge in the west and lakes	Cities in the UK include Edinburgh in Scotland, Belfast in Northern Ireland, St Davids in Wales and Birmingham,	There are four mountain ranges in the UK that are home to each country's highest mountain: Ben Nevis, in the		

			A capital city is a city that is home to the government and ruler of a country. The capital city of England is London. The capital city of Northern Ireland is Belfast. The capital city of Scotland is Edinburgh. The capital city of Wales is Cardiff.	and mountains in the Lake District. Northern Ireland has many famous physical features, including huge columns made of rock called the Giant's Causeway in the north and Lough Neagh, the largest lake in the United Kingdom. Scotland has many famous physical features, such as the extinct volcano Arthur's Seat in Edinburgh, and the lake Loch Lomond. Wales has many famous features including Mount Snowden and the River Severn.	Manchester and London in England.	Grampian Mountains, Scotland; Scafell Pike, in the Cumbrian Mountains, England; Yr Wyddfa, also known as Snowdon, in Eryri, also known as Snowdonia, Wales and Slieve Donard, in the Mourne Mountains, Northern Ireland. Significant mountain ranges of the UK include the Grampian Mountains, Snowdonia and the Pennines. Significant rivers of the UK include the River Tay, the River Trent and the River Wye. Significant forests of the UK include the New Forest and Portglenone Forest. Islands of the United Kingdom include Lindisfarne and Orkney Islands. Topography is the arrangement of the natural and artificial physical features of an area		
	Location	There are places in the world where it is always cold and snowy. The animals that live there have special features that help them to live in the cold. The weather, environment and	The equator is an imaginary line around the middle of the Earth. Warmer areas of the world are closer to the equator and colder areas of the	The Northern Hemisphere is north of the equator and the Southern Hemisphere is south of the equator. The North Pole is the most northern point on Earth. The South	Latitude is a coordinate that specifies the north or south position of a point on the surface of the Earth. Latitude is given as an angle that ranges from -90° at the south pole to 90°	The Tropic of Cancer is 23 degrees north of the equator and Tropic of Capricorn is 23 degrees south of the equator. The tropics are regions of Earth that	The Prime (or Greenwich) Meridian is an imaginary line that divides the Earth into eastern and western hemispheres. The time at Greenwich is called	Latitude and longitude help identify locations in relation to the equator and the Prime Meridian. Latitude and longitude are

		living things are different in different places around the world. Climates and environments are different, depending on their location on Earth. Living things are different in different places around the world.	world are further from the equator.	Pole is the most southern point on Earth.	at the north pole, with 0° at the equator. Longitude is the distance east or west of the Prime Meridian.	lie roughly in the middle of the globe between the Tropic of Cancer and the Tropic of Capricorn.	Greenwich Mean Time (GMT). Each time zone that is 15 degrees to the west of Greenwich is another hour earlier than GMT. Each time zone 15 degrees to the east is another hour later.	measured in degrees. There are five major lines of latitude: Equator (0°), Tropic of Cancer (23.5°N), Tropic of Capricorn (23.5°S), Arctic Circle (66.5°N) and Antarctic Circle (66.5°S). The Prime Meridian is the imaginary line from the North Pole to the South Pole that passes through Greenwich in England and marks 0° longitude, from which all other longitudes are measured. The world is split into 24 meridians 15° apart because there is 24 hours in a day and 360° in one rotation. The times are calculated from GMT. Times to the east of the Prime Meridian are ahead of GMT (GMT+), times to the west are behind GMT (GMT-).
	Position	Positional language is used to describe where things are in relation to one another. Positional language includes in, on, next to, behind, in front of, in between, above, below and underneath.	A location is a place or the position of something. Direction is the way you travel to get somewhere.	A compass is an instrument that is used for finding a direction. The four cardinal points on a compass are north, south, east and west.	The four intercardinal points on a compass are north-east, south-east, south-west and north-west.	The four cardinal directions are north (N), east (E), south (S) and west (W), which are at 90° angles on the compass rose. The four intercardinal (or ordinal) directions are halfway between the	Cardinal and intercardinal compass points can be used to describe the relationship of features to each other	Invisible lines of latitude run horizontally around the Earth and show the northerly or southerly position of a geographical area. Invisible lines of longitude run vertically from the North to the South

						cardinal directions: north-east (NE), south-east (SE), south-west (SW) and north-west (NW).		Pole and show the westerly or easterly position of a geographical area.
	Maps	A map is a picture or drawing of a place or journey. A map is a drawing of an area of land or sea it shows features, including roads, paths, rivers, woods and buildings. A map is a drawing of an area of land or sea. It shows features, including roads, paths, rivers, woods and buildings. A map is a drawing of an area of land or sea. It shows features, including roads, rivers, woods, parks and buildings. A map is a drawing of an area it shows features, including roads, rivers, woods, parks and buildings.	A map is a picture or drawing of an area of land or sea that can show human and physical features. A key is used to show features on a map. A map has symbols to show where things are located.	Maps help people to plan a route from one place to another and to identify and locate physical and human features. Maps use symbols and a key. A key is the information needed to read a map and a symbol is a picture or icon used to show a geographical feature.	A four-figure grid reference contains four numbers. The first two numbers are called the easting and are found along the top and bottom of a map. The second two numbers are called the northing and are found up both sides of a map.	In a four-figure grid reference, the two-digit eastings come first, followed by the two digit northings. A four-figure grid reference locates a square on a map. A six-figure grid reference contains six numbers and is more precise than a four-figure grid reference. The first three figures are called the easting and are found along the top and bottom of a map. The second three figures are called the northing and are found up both sides of a map.		Ordnance survey maps use four and six grid references to locate a feature or place. Contour lines join points of equal height above sea level and show an area's terrain. Ordnance Survey symbols are used to represent different features on the landscape. This includes buildings, roads, rivers, lakes and forests. Understanding these symbols is essential for reading and using Ordnance Survey maps effectively.
Comparison	Compare and contrast	The weather, environment and living things are different in different places around the world.	Hot places are close to the equator and cold places are far away from the equator. Kuala Lumpur is the capital city of Malaysia. Similarities between Kuala Lumpur and London are that both cities have a river and a zoo. Differences between Kuala Lumper and London include Kuala Lumpur having a	Somalia is a country on the east coast of Africa. The equator crosses through Somalia, so the climate is very hot and dry. Like the UK, Somalia has four seasons. The capital city of Somalia is called Mogadishu.	A volcano is a physical feature, typically a conical mountain or hill, that has a crater or vent through which lava, rock fragments, hot vapour, and gas erupt or have erupted. A volcano can be active, dormant or extinct.	A river is a body of water that flows downhill, usually to the sea. The place where a river starts is called the source. Tributaries are small rivers or streams that flow into larger rivers or lakes. The place where a river flows into the sea is called the mouth.	The seven continents (Africa, Antarctica, Asia, Australia, Europe, North America and South America) vary in size, shape, location, population and climate.	Climates can be compared by looking at factors including maximum and minimum levels of precipitation and average monthly temperatures. Antarctica is the coldest, windiest and driest place on Earth

			monorail while London has overground and underground trains.			A mountain is a natural elevation of the Earth's surface, rising to a summit. Mountains have an elevation greater than that of a hill, usually greater than 610m.		
Significance	Significant places	A place can be important because of its location, use buildings or landscape.		Places can be significant because religious or historic events that have happened there in the past. A significant place is a location that is important to a community or society. Places can be significant because religious or historic events that have happened there in the past. Buckingham Palace in London and Balmoral Castle in Aberdeenshire are two significant royal residencies in the UK.	The Ring of Fire is a large area around the Pacific Ocean where many earthquakes and volcanic eruptions occur. Significant volcanoes include Mount Vesuvius in Italy, Laki in Iceland and Krakatoa in Indonesia.	Significant world rivers include the Mississippi, Nile, Thames, Amazon, Volga, Zambezi, Mekong, Ganges, Danube and Yangtze. Significant mountain ranges of the world include the Himalayas, Urals, Andes, Alps, Atlas, Pyrenees, Apennines, Balkans and Sierra Nevada.	Developing countries such as Peru offer farming opportunities due to a tropical climate and rich soils but also face challenges such as lack of farming technology, labour shortages, fluctuating prices and transport issues.	
Change	Geographical change			A place can change over time due to human activity such as house building, new industries and tourism. Erosion can cause the change over time to an environment or place. Erosion is a physical process.	Volcanic eruptions are an example of significant geographical activity and can destroy habitats, homes and businesses and can change the landscape. Earthquakes are an example of significant geographical activity and can		Settlement hierarchy is a way of grouping and ranking settlements according to their type, significance, number and size. A hamlet is at the bottom of the hierarchy and a capital city at the top.	

				Erosion is caused by wind and water, including waves, floods, rivers and rainfall.	destroy habitats, homes and businesses and can change the landscape. Convergent tectonic plates push together. Divergent tectonic plates pull apart. Transform tectonic plates slide past each other. The crust of the Earth is divided into tectonic plates that move. Plates can push into each other, pull apart or slide against each other. These movements can create mountains, volcanoes, valleys and earthquakes.			