



Lowerhouse Junior School Geography Overview Sheet



Year 6 – How do maps help us to find our way around?



Rationale: Maps unit allows Year 6 to further explore the range of maps available to geographers and to develop their understanding of the key features of maps. They will study a range of maps and atlases, including digital maps, and compare their features. They will learn to use the eight compass points to give directions and give grid references to locate places on a map. By comparing maps of the same place, children will learn about the way that places have changed over time.

Substantive Knowledge:

Human and physical geography

Describe and understand key aspects of:

- physical geography, including: rivers, mountains.
- human geography, including: types of settlement and land use.

Overview:

Lesson 1: Introduction to Maps and Their Purpose - Understand how maps are used and their purposes, focusing on different map styles and symbols.
Lesson 2: Using Compass Points and Scale Bars - Use the eight cardinal points and scale bars to understand direction and distance.
Lesson 3: Settlements and Land Use - Identify different types of settlements and land use on maps and relate them to physical geography.
Lesson 4: Creating and Interpreting Sketch Maps - Create accurate sketch maps using symbols and a key.
Lesson 5: Comparing Map Scales and Digital Tools - Compare maps at different scales and use digital tools to enhance map reading.
Lesson 6: Applying Mapping Skills - Consolidate knowledge by navigating using maps and creating their own

Key Vocabulary

Atlas - A book containing a collection of maps.
Continent - The Earth is made up of these 7 areas of land.
Country - A nation separated from others by a political or physical border.
County - The different, organised areas within a country.
Direction - Tells us which way to travel.
English Channel - A 560km stretch of sea that separates England from France - important for trade.
Europe - One of the 7 continents on Earth and where the U.K. is located.
Human features - Things built by humans which can be seen from a satellite or are placed on a map.
Location - Tells us where something is.
Physical Features - Things established from nature that can be seen from a satellite or are placed on a map.
Scale - Tells us the size of something.
Symbols - Simple pictures which represent something.

Impact/Assessment

Most Children will: • Use an index to find a place name. • Find the correct page in an atlas by using the index. • Explain why maps have symbols on them. • Recognise some map symbols on an Ordnance Survey map. • Give co-ordinates by going across first and then up. • Find a location from four-figure coordinates. • Find differences between photographs of the same location. • Find similarities between photographs of the same location. • Find differences between maps of the same location