Medium Term Plan: Supporting Implementation of LTP/Progression Grid

Subject: Geography – The UK and Countries
Enquiry Question – Is the UK the same all over?

Year: Phase 2- Year A- Unit 1 Year A

NC/PoS:

Locational Knowledge

- Name, locate and identify characteristics of the four countries and capital cities of the United Kingdom and its surrounding seas.
- Identify key physical features, including rivers, coasts, hills, mountains, valleys, and forests.
- Identify human features, such as towns, cities, factories, and transport networks.

Place Knowledge

- Understand geographical similarities and differences through the study of human and physical geography within the United Kingdom.

Human and Physical Geography

- Understand the climate and weather patterns in the UK and the four countries that make up the United Kingdom.
- Learn about the human and physical features of the UK, including land use, settlements, and natural resources.

Geographical Skills and Fieldwork

- Use world maps, atlases and globes to identify the United Kingdom and its countries.
- Use simple compass directions (North, South, East and West) and locational language to describe routes on a map.
- Use aerial photographs to recognise landmarks and basic human and physical features.
- Conduct simple fieldwork to study the geography of the school and local area.

Prior Learning (what pupils already know and can do)

Children know they live in Warrington, which is in England. Children can locate England on a world map and know the general layout of the United Kingdom. Children can distinguish between human and physical features and understand basic map concepts. Children have basic knowledge of seasonal weather patterns and can identify weather changes.

End Points (what pupils MUST know and remember)

Name and locate the 4 countries and capital cities of the UK and the 4 seas that surround it - English Channel, North Sea, Irish Sea, Celtic Sea.

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Know the geographical characteristics of each of the 4 countries and capital cities – weather/climate, settlements, physical and human features, trade.
Use fieldwork and observation skills to compare Formby beach and Sankey Bridges – Identify similarities and differences – house and homes, landscapes.

Key Vocabulary

United Kingdom, England, Scotland, Wales, Northern Ireland, capital city, sea, river, mountain, coast, coastline, beach, harbour, port, population, trade, government, climate, seasons, weather, North Sea, English Channel, Irish Sea, Celtic Sea, river, hill, mountain, city, town, village.

Recommended Resources:

UK maps and world maps
Atlases and globes
Aerial photographs
Compasses
Fieldwork materials (clipboards, recording sheets)
Digital tools (Google Earth, map software)
Weather instruments (thermometers, rain gauges)

Curriculum Connections:

Maths: Data collection and interpretation (e.g, shells and litter).
English: Adjectives and adverbs.
PSHE: Differences and similarities between people around the UK.

Career Opportunities:

Urban planner
Environmental scientist
Cartographer
Teacher

Session 1: What is the UK?

Objective: To identify the four countries of the UK and understand its geographical location.

What is the Uk? It stands for United Kingdom. It is made up of 4 smaller countries. England and Scotland and Wales are located on the island of Great Britain, Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland are on the Island of Ireland.
Identify the UK and its countries on a UK and world map. Which country do we live in? Use positional/locational language to describe where each country is in relation to the others. The Uk is surrounded by water. The English Channel which is between England and France. The Irish Sea which is between England, Wales, Northern Ireland and Ireland. The North Sea which is between Great Britain, Norway and Denmark.

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Key Vocabulary: United Kingdom, Britain, country, England, Scotland, Northern Ireland, Wales, North, East, South, West

Session 2: What is a city?

Objective: To understand what a city is and identify the capital cities of the UK.

What is a city? Most cities are types of settlements and that the type depends on the size of their populations. Most settlements came into existence because they are near a water source. (inter-connect ability physical geography drives human) What is a capital City? It is when the law or constitution identifies a city or place (state or province) as a capital. It is the location where the government has its central meeting place. This is mainly true of most countries although there are some exceptions; Switzerland, Monaco and the Vatican City do not have a capital city.
Name and locate each of the capital cities and their rivers of each country of the UK. London- Thames, Edinburgh-Leith, Cardiff- Taff, Belfast-Lagan. Look at maps, settlement changes over time

Key Vocabulary: city, capital city, settlement, government, river, trade, population.

Session 3: England – Physical and Human Features

Objective: To explore the physical and human features of England.

England and its physical and human features. It' the largest of the countries, estimated 55 million (2018). Climate. What is a coast/coastline? It has coasts on the North Sea, English Channel. Atlantic Ocean and Irish Sea. Large cities in England are Liverpool, Leeds, Manchester, Birmingham. Significant Landmarks; Highest Mountain Scafell Pike, Largest natural Lake Windermere, White cliffs of Dover are tall white chalk cliffs that face France.
Main Trade – cars, gold, oil. – buying and selling- harbours/ports
Settlements – Population
Rivers/Coasts/Mountains
London is the UK's largest city and the capital city. There are lots of famous landmarks there. Tower Bridge, Houses of Parliament and Buckingham palace. A significant proportion of income comes through city of London; Finance. River Thames
Cultural; speak English, Flag, national symbol, typical traditional food, music

Key Vocabulary: mountain, river, coast, coastline, landmark, climate, trade, settlement, population.

Session 4: Fieldwork – Exploring a Beach

Objective: To conduct fieldwork and identify physical and human features of a coastal area.

Fieldwork – Beach
Recap fieldwork from last unit. Field work is when find things out about a place - an investigation. Before you start field work you must decide what you want to find out. Think of questions to ask, your focus for the investigation within the above themes for the areas you are going to investigate.

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Children to conduct fieldwork at Formby Beach – using maps and compasses. Identify human and physical features – sea, sand, coastline, dunes, shop, carpark. 4-way sketch map.
Collect/Record items found at the beach – litter, shells, seaweed etc
What does this tell us about the area? Does this make in a nice place to visit. What impact could this have on the area? Busy, noise, litter, pollution. How can it be improved/maintained?
Comparison – beach v Frodsham
Mathematics; Children given opportunities to record data gathered through fieldwork – table with total number of items found there.

Key Vocabulary: fieldwork, coast, beach, dunes, pollution, litter, environment.

Session 5: Scotland – Physical and Human Features

Objective: To explore the physical and human features of Scotland.

Scotland and its physical and human features. Scotland is most northern country of Great Britain and has some of the coldest weather. Its coasts are on the North Sea and Atlantic Ocean. (2022) 5.5 million people live in Scotland and almost half on the coast. There are hundreds of islands off the coast of Scotland; Shetland Islands, Orkney and Hebrides. Important cities are Glasgow and Aberdeen. Famous landmarks are; Ben Nevis is the highest mountain in Scotland and whole of UK and it's within the Grampian Mountain range. Many Lakes in Scotland called Lochs, Loch London is the largest.
Main Trade – Oil and gas, wool, tarten, whisky, salmon, oil) Harbours/Ports
Settlements – Population
Rivers/Coasts/Mountains
Edinburgh is built on lots of hills. Edinburgh castle is built on a hill which is an extinct volcano. River Leith
Cultural; speak Gaelic, Flag, national symbol, typical traditional food, music

Key Vocabulary: loch, mountain, coastline, trade, population, settlement.

Session 6: Wales – Physical and Human Features

Objective: To explore the physical and human features of Wales.

Wales and its physical and human features. Wales population is approximately 3.1 million (2022), its coast is on the Irish Sea. Important cities are Newport and Swansea. The highest mountain is Mount Snowdon and is in the Cambrian Mountain range. The longest river in the UK runs between Wales and England and is called the River Severn.
Main Trade – Transport equipment, oil,, iron and steel, copper, tin, coal, wool – harbour/ports
Settlements – Population
Rivers/Coasts/Mountains
Cardiff is located on the southern coast of Wales. Largest city in Wales. Famous Landmark Cardiff castle is medieval and a Motte and Bailey castle. This means it is on a hill and has a courtyard. River Taff.
Cultural; speak Celtic, Flag, national symbol, typical traditional food, music

Key Vocabulary: mountain, river, valley, coast, settlement, trade.

Session 7: Northern Ireland – Physical and Human Features

Objective: To explore the physical and human features of Northern Ireland.

Northern Ireland and its physical and human features. It is located on an Island of Ireland with the republic of Ireland which is a separate country. Population is approximately 1.8 million. Coasts on the Irish sea and Atlantic Ocean. Significant landmarks are; The largest Lake in the UK is called Lough Neagh; the highest mountain peak is Slieve Donard in the Moure mountains. The Giants Causeway on the north coast is made up of thousands of columns.

Belfast is the largest city in Northern Ireland. Located on the river Lagan. It is an important port. It was the centre for ship building and built the Titanic.
Main Trade – ships - harbours/Ports
Settlements – Population
Rivers/Coasts/Mountains
Cultural; speak main language English, Flag, national symbol, typical traditional food, music

Key Vocabulary: lake, mountain, volcano, port, trade, settlement.

Future learning this content supports:

This content will support future learning on the UK e.g. regions, counties and cities and when comparing other locations of the UK to other parts of the world. This unit will support future comparisons on locations around the world and future learning on the water cycle.