

Geography at Brackensdale Primary School

Geography teaching at Brackensdale Primary School is about the children developing an understanding of our world, primarily through experience, investigation and learning from primary and secondary sources. We aim to inspire in pupils a curiosity and fascination about the world and its people. Teaching should equip pupils with knowledge about diverse places, people, resources and natural and human environments, together with an understanding of the Earth's key physical and human processes.

Curriculum Intent

Brackensdale Primary School uses the Cornerstones Curriculum, which provides each year group with geography topics that teach facts and information to deepen the children's geographical knowledge and understanding. They are given time to demonstrate new skills and consolidate what they know.

Geography is taught from Nursery to Year 6. In the Early Years, it is explored through 'Understanding of the World' and from years 1 -6 it is taught through a knowledge and skills based approach.

In Foundation Stage, pupils will begin to gain a wider experience of the world around them. They will learn through first-hand experiences to explore, observe, problem solve, predict, think critically, make decisions and talk about the creatures, people, plants and objects in their natural environments. Pupils will be asked open-ended questions to help them think and make connections between ideas. Pupils will learn about seasons, the weather, features in the local area and the buildings that surround them. They will also be encouraged to record their findings, perhaps through drawing, writing, and modelling.

During Key Stage 1 pupils investigate their local area and a contrasting area in the United Kingdom or abroad, finding out about the environment in both areas and the people who live there. They also begin to learn out about the wider world. They carry out geographical enquiry inside and outside the classroom. In doing this they ask geographical questions about people places and environments and use geographical skills and resources such as maps and photographs.

During Key Stage 2 pupils investigate a variety of people and places, and environments at different scales in the United Kingdom and abroad, and start to make links between different places in the world. They find out how people affect the environment and how they are affected by it. They carry out geographical questions, and use geographical skills and resources such as maps, atlases, aerial photographs and ICT.

In geography lessons pupils will have the opportunity to:

- Make visits into the local area
- Undertake map work
- Take part in field work, covering aspects of physical and human environments
- Learn from places of geographical interest
- Learn from visiting speakers
- Learn from formal presentations
- Make use of photographs, video clips and the internet
- Record their findings in a variety of ways
- Handle and interpret data
- Take part in role play, educational games or simulations
- Use information technology
- Engage in a variety of practical activities

Geography Topics at Brackensdale

Our current geography topics are as follows:

Nursery	“Finding My Way” “Changing Seasons” “Walking to the Library” “What Can We See Around Us?”
Reception	“Where do I Live?” “What’s it Like to Live in Africa?” “How do People Celebrate Around the World?” “What Can You See at the Seaside?”
Year 1	“Maps” “Continents of the World” “Brazil”
Year 2	“Food From Around the World” “Towers From Around the World”
Year 3	“Fairtrade” “Habitats” “Derby”
Year 4	“Countries and Continents” “Using Maps” “Seas and Oceans”
Year 5	“Physical Features” “Map Skills” “Contrasting Localities and the River Nile” “Sketch Maps and Fieldwork” “Modern Day Greece”
Year 6	“Mexico” “Polar Caps, Glaciers and Icebergs” “Coordinates and Maps”

