



Geography

At Holmer Green Junior School, we encourage all children to love the world we live in. We explore our local and surrounding areas through field work as well as investigating countries from other continents. Geography skills are developed further on our trips through orienteering activities. We encourage curious learners and love to explore children's questions around diverse places, people, resources and impacts to the environment.

We apply our geographical knowledge to all areas of the curriculum. At our school, we explore other cultures from different continents including: Greece, North and South America and Africa. We also deepen our locational knowledge of Holmer Green, High Wycombe and London and compare them to other locations. One example is shown in Year 6, where they research the river at the Rye and how its purpose has changed over the years.

As the children progress through the school, we develop their key geographical skills by using maps and atlases to locate countries. The children apply their knowledge of maps in our field work tasks using compasses, four or six figure grid references and OS map symbols. Year 3 and 5 children plan a route around the local area using maps and their knowledge of OS symbols.

Our Geography curriculum is accessible by all. We challenge our more able pupils by asking them to critically analyse data and reflect upon human and physical causes effecting the environment. We encourage them to explore similarities and differences across countries and why these may have occurred either naturally or with human impact. Children who have additional needs, are supported by adapting the curriculum to match their support plans. Teachers will ensure they have high expectations for all in every lesson and also understand the importance of the scaffolding to support the children when needed. Ways this is achieved is to act out physical processes, use of images where possible as well as ICT to support research into other cultures.

The main aims of our curriculum are to:

- develop locational knowledge of significant places
- ask questions to gain a deeper understanding of the world around us
- understand the key physical and human processes effecting the world
- develop geographical skills including: collecting and analysing data, interpreting a range of sources and to be able to communicate geographical information in a variety of ways.