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Year 7

Department of Geography



OVERVIEW

For many students Geography in Year 7 will be their first proper taste of Geography after primary school, so our focus is to introduce them to a wide range of both human and physical Geography topics and to gain an understanding how they connect together and interact. It is also important to introduce students to Geographic fieldwork and begin to develop their skills in data collection, interpretation and analysis. Much of the knowledge introduced during KS3 forms the groundwork for their GCSE studies in Geography.

Skills Developed

- World knowledge
- Map reading skills
- Literacy- writing for different audiences, presenting to others, extended and creative writing
- Reasoning skills
- Curiosity of the world around you
- Empathy
- Fieldwork skills- collecting primary data
- Presenting data
- Analysis
- Evaluation

Topics covered

What is Geography?

- Why study Geography?
- Different Types of Geography
- World Knowledge: Continents and Oceans
- World Knowledge: Physical Features
- World Knowledge: Latitude and Longitude
- The British Isles Knowledge
- What is Geography fieldwork?
- How to create a field sketch?
- What do we mean by environmental quality?
- Fieldwork in the school grounds on Environmental Quality

What are Map Skills and how do you use them?

- Different types of maps
- 4 figure and 6 figure grid references
- Using symbols
- Showing height on a map
- Measuring distances

What is urbanisation?

- What do we mean by settlement?
- Why do settlements develop over time?
- Our local town: Cheam

- What is urbanisation?
- Why is the world becoming more urbanised?
- Opportunities and Challenges in cities
- Megacities (plus case studies)
- Sustainable Cities
- Sustainable Cities Project

What are rivers and fieldwork?

- What do rivers look like on a map?
- Understanding the basic characteristics of a drainage basin
- Why do rivers flood and how does this impact people?
- Far away river landscapes= Zambezi
- Creating a geographical enquiry from start to finish

How we assess your daughter's progress

- We have four in-class assessments during the year with no final end of year exams.
- Your daughter will be given one week's notice of the assessment and appropriate homework will be set to support your daughter's learning.
- These assessments are marked by the teacher after which a lesson will be devoted to reviewing the assessment and targets to aid further progress will be set.

How we support and develop your daughter

- Pupils have access to textbooks, atlases, reference books and magazines, both available within the department and in the school library.
- The Geography department has a computer room, with 30 computers, and learners' access to Geographic software such as Google Earth and GIS software ArcGis and Esri UK as well as opportunities for further research in lesson time.
- Students can arrange a time outside of lessons to see teachers if they are stuck on homework or on a particular topic.
- Pupils can submit articles to the Nonsuch Geographic Magazine Committee
- Regular advertisement of Geography competitions, such as those run through the Geographic Association or the Royal Geographic Society.

How you can help your daughter

- Please help your daughter ensure she has all of the correct equipment for her Geography lessons, including pens, pencil, rubber, sharpener, ruler, colouring pencils and a scientific calculator.
- Review your daughter's homework tasks to ensure that she has followed all instructions and completed the work to best of her ability.
- Review the feedback given on all homework tasks and assessments, focusing on areas to improve.
- Check your daughter's homework diary to ensure all Geography homework is being recorded correctly, as are dates for Geography assessments.
- Support her in preparing for any assessments, whether through assisting with revision or helping her prepare any necessary research.
- Geography is not just about learning country names and their capital cities. Whilst this is important, Geography is also about developing an awareness of the world around you; understanding your location in relation to the rest of the world; discussing

important global issues and problems; taking an interesting in the environment around you.

- Discuss what's in the news- lots of stories relate and link to Geography. This could be something from the local news, the national news or even something on a more global scale. It doesn't have to be about the obvious, such as a natural disaster or weather events, but could be related to population and migration, or economic development or even climate change.
- Watch documentaries and television shows related to Geography, such as BBC Two's Coasts or Channel 4's Man Made Planet.
- Going for walks and investigate your local area- this can help with map reading skills but also an appreciation of different physical and human environments, and understanding how geographic theory fits into the real world.
- Similarly, when out driving, perhaps on holiday, develop not only map reading skills with a paper road map but alongside a sat nav- discuss the differences with how the landscape features and information is presented in either format.
- Local, Regional and National Locations recommended to visit:
 - ❖ Local Area: Box Hill (North Downs), London (the London Docklands, East London Regeneration, Notting Hill), RHS Wisley, Kew Gardens, The Natural History Museum
 - ❖ Regional Area: Cuckmere Haven, Brighton, the New Forest, Queen Elizabeth Country Park, the Devil's Punchbowl
 - ❖ National Locations: The Lake District National Park, Yorkshire Dales National Park, the Jurassic Coast (a World Heritage Site stretching from Exmouth in East Devon to Studland Bay in Dorset)
- Have an atlas at home and find places your family are connected to- perhaps through holidays, migration and employment.
- There are a wealth of resources available online such as:
 - <http://www.bbc.co.uk/education/subjects/zrw76sg> BBC Schools KS3
Geography
 - <http://www.bbc.co.uk/education/subjects/zkw76sg> BBC Bitesize GCSE
Geography
 - <https://www.ordnancesurvey.co.uk/mapzone/>
 - <https://revisionworld.com/gcse-revision/geography>