



Year 5 Geography Term 5 2026

What is Europe?

Key Vocabulary

Border, capital, landlocked, population, currency, language, bodies of water, monarchy, neutral, trade, temperature, tundra, west arid, Mediterranean,

Prior learning

Lower Key Stage 2 – Year 3 - Autumn Term 1: What are the geographical regions of the UK?

Name and locate counties and cities of the United Kingdom, geographical regions and their identifying human and physical characteristics, key topographical features (including hills, mountains, coasts and rivers), and land-use patterns; and understand how some of these aspects have changed over time

Describe and understand key aspects of:

- physical geography, including: climate zones, biomes and vegetation belts, rivers, mountains, volcanoes and earthquakes, and the water cycle
- human geography, including: types of settlement and land use, economic activity including trade links, and the distribution of natural resources including energy, food, minerals and water

National Curriculum

Locational Knowledge

Name and locate counties and cities of the United Kingdom, geographical regions and their identifying human and physical characteristics, key topographical features (including hills, mountains, coasts and rivers), and land-use patterns; and understand how some of these aspects have changed over time

Human and physical geography

Describe and understand key aspects of: physical geography, including: climate zones, biomes and vegetation belts, rivers, mountains, volcanoes and earthquakes, and the water cycle

Human geography, including: types of settlement and land use, economic activity including trade links, and the distribution of natural resources including energy, food, minerals and water

Geographical skills and fieldwork

Use maps, atlases, globes and digital/computer mapping to locate countries and describe features studied

Use fieldwork to observe, measure, record and present the human and physical features in the local area using a range of methods, including sketch maps, plans and graphs, and digital technologies

Learning Sequence

1. ENQUIRY QUESTION

What is Europe?

Substantive & Procedural Knowledge Core Components

Locate countries in Europe including Russia using a variety of maps.
(Review Yr 3,4)

Countries: Albania, Andorra, Austria, Belarus, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Kosovo, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Macedonia, Malta,

Disciplinary Knowledge/Skills



Mapping

Use physical and political maps, atlases, globes, Google Maps and

<p>Moldova, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Russia, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, Ukraine, the United Kingdom (England, Scotland, Wales, and Northern Ireland), and Vatican City.</p> <p>Population: 748,321,182 (in January 2022)</p> <p>Area: 10,180,000 km²</p> <p>Most widely used currency: the Euro (€)</p> <p>Biggest countries by population (in 2020):</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Russia (145,934,462) 2. Germany (83,783,942) 3. United Kingdom (67,886,011) 4. France (65,273,511) 5. Italy (60,461,826) <p>Biggest countries by size (only taking into account a country's European portion):</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 6. Russia (3,969,100km²) 7. Ukraine (603,628) 8. France (551,695) 9. Spain (498,511) 10. Sweden (450,295) <p>Biggest cities (by population):</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 11. Istanbul, Turkey (15,462,452) 12. Moscow, Russia (12,195,221) 13. London, United Kingdom (9,126,366) 14. Saint Petersburg, Russia (5,383,890) 15. Berlin, Germany (3,748,148) <p>Other major cities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Paris, France, Rome, Italy, Madrid, Spain, Kiev, Ukraine, Budapest, Hungary <p>Bordering bodies of water: Atlantic Ocean, Mediterranean Sea, Bay of Biscay, North Sea, Baltic Sea, Black Sea.</p> <p>Major rivers: Danube River, Elbe River, Loire River, Po River, Rhine River, Volga River, Ladoga Lake, Onega Lake, Lake Geneva, Lake Como.</p> <p>Major geographical features: The Alps, Ural Mountains, Pyrenees, Carpathian Mountains, Apennines, Massif Central plateau, North European Plain, the islands of Great Britain and Ireland, Iberian Peninsula.</p> <p>Major climates: Mostly temperate. Parts of the north feature tundra, west arid and south Mediterranean.</p>	<p>Google Earth to locate and describe studied human and physical features, including major rivers and their corresponding countries and cities.</p>
---	--

ENQUIRY QUESTION

What is the impact of politics and war on maps and borders?

Substantive & Procedural Knowledge Core Components	Disciplinary Knowledge/Skills
<p>Major religions: Christianity, Islam and Judaism.</p> <p>Flags – Britain, France, Russia, Italy, Germany, Austria, Hungary, Bulgaria, Spain, Czech Republic and Slovakia (all countries involved in WWs)</p> <p>Know that Vatican City is the smallest country in the world. Encircled by a 2-mile border with Italy, Vatican City is an independent city-state that covers an area of 0.49 sq km. Vatican City is governed as an absolute monarchy with the pope at its head. Population: 453 Languages: Latin, also Italian</p>	 <p>Cause and Consequence</p> <p>Understand the impact of politics and war has on maps and borders.</p>

ENQUIRY QUESTION

What is the European Union?

Substantive & Procedural Knowledge Core Components	Disciplinary Knowledge/Skills
--	-------------------------------

Independently research a country to identify its main human characteristics: land-use, trade, religion, currency, agriculture etc.

Understand what the European Union is and how this is different from geographically being the continent of Europe.

Understand that countries that are landlocked have to develop strong political alliances with other countries in order to access trade routes

Know that Switzerland – physically part of Europe but politically neutral



Similarity and Difference

Compare and contrast difference countries in Europe

Ask and investigate geographical questions, suggesting enquiries to test them.

Analyse, communicate and explain geographical information by constructing maps with keys, labelled diagrams, age-appropriate and through writing at length, using appropriate geographical vocabulary. Choose an appropriate method to communicate information and give reasons for this.

Final Assessment Piece

Answering Enquiry Question

Independently research a country in Europe and create an informative fact file poster about it.