Geography

Year 5 and 6

Summer

Topic North America and Mexico

Rationale

The children will study the North America and Mexico in detail, comparing these two places to our own home in the UK. They will also compare modern day Mexico with the Mexico at the time of the ancient civilisation of the Maya. This topic gives the children the opportunity to learn in depth about a part of the world a greater distance away from the UK.

NC Objective

- Locate the world's countries, using maps to focus on and North America concentrating on their environmental regions, key physical and human characteristics, countries, and major cities

Links to other Subject/Topics.

History –Ancient Civilisations – Mayans.
English – Inform, non-chronological, letters, leaflets
Computing – Spark, Multimedia, Online Research
Art – Drawing and painting

Inspiration for Aspiration

Palaeontologist, Archaeologist, Historian, Travel writer, Vlogger, Blogger, Teacher, Navy, Merchant Navy

Key Content

- What are the geographical similarities and differences of the physical geography of North America and the UK, including volcanoes and earthquakes?
- What are the geographical similarities and differences of the human geography of North America and the UK, including types of settlement and land use?
- What are 6 figure grid references and understand latitude and longitude in depth?
- Can I expand my map skills to include non-UK countries?
- What are the Aztecs (Ancient civilisations) including their way of life and religion?

Concepts

Geography	1	2	3	4	5	6
Location and Place						
Space						
Sustainability and the Environment						
Change						

Year 3/4 Skills and Knowledge

- Describe and understand key aspects of: Physical geography, including: climate zones, biomes and vegetation belts
- Use maps, atlases, globes and digital/computer mapping (Google Earth) to locate countries and describe features studied
- Describe and understand key aspects of physical geography including Rivers and the Water cycle

Year 5/6 Skills and Knowledge

- Use maps, atlases, globes and digital/computer mapping to locate countries and describe features studied
- Use symbols and key (including the use of Ordnance Survey maps) to build their knowledge of and the wider world.
- On a world map, locate areas of similar environmental regions, either desert, rainforest or temperate regions.
- Compare a region in UK with a region in N. or S. America with significant differences and similarities.
- Describe and understand key aspects of: Physical geography including Volcanoes and earthquakes, looking at plate tectonics and the ring of fire.
- Describe and understand key aspects of: Human geography including types of settlement and land use, economic activity and the distribution of natural resources including food, energy and water.

Year 3/4 Vocabulary	Year 5/6 Topic Vocabulary	Year 5/6 Geographical Vocabulary
latitude, longitude, co-ordinates	Aztecs Chichen Itza Maize Mexico North America Modern	Continent Country Climate Biodiversity Natural resources Cultural diversity Economy Population density Infrastructure Government Trade Environment Human Physical Compare Similar Difference Land use Industry Jobs Volcanoes Earthquakes

By the end of the topic children will be able to successfully answer the following questions: -

- What are the geographical similarities and differences of the physical geography of North America and the UK, including volcanoes and earthquakes?
- What are the geographical similarities and differences of the human geography of North America and the UK, including types of settlement and land use?
- What are 6 figure grid references and understand latitude and longitude in depth?
- Can I expand my map skills to include non-UK countries?
- What are the Aztecs (Ancient civilisations) including their way of life and religion?

Assessment

Formative assessment of the end points during lessons.
Presentation of similarities and differences between Mexico and an area of the UK, including volcanoes and earthquakes and settlement and land use.
Assessment of children's understanding of 6 figure grid references using ordnance survey maps of UK and beyond.
Quiz about the Aztecs.