

Geographical vocabulary

The following sets out key geographical vocabulary for this year group. It has been designed for schools which are following our Long-Term Planning Pathways. Terms therefore relate to the topics that are being studied as part of that pathway.

It draws on key vocabulary that has been set out in the Oddizzi knowledge organisers for each topic. This vocabulary consolidates and builds on that which has been established in previous years and topics.

Being able to understand, use and apply key vocabulary is an essential part of children's developing knowledge of geographical places and concepts. It is therefore important that the use of these words is contextualised in the places and topics that children are learning about, rather than simply learned as a word list¹. The Oddizzi schemes and associated activities will help you to do this.

The list of words is based around three essential elements of geographical vocabulary:

- place names (including familiar places);
- geographical terms and processes;
- locational terms.

We also offer a brief selected glossary for the year group.

For subject co-ordinators, we provide a complete vocabulary list that covers all year groups. Class teachers may also want to look at this, so as to have some idea of which terms their children ought already to be familiar with.

¹ See Ofsted Handbook, 2019. "Inspectors will be alert to unnecessary or excessive attempts to simply prompt pupils to learn glossaries or long lists of disconnected facts."

Progression in Vocabulary - Year 3

During Year 3, children should be able to make appropriate use of the words they have learned during KS1. Over the course of the year, they should become familiar with the following additional words, in the context of the places and topics being studied. (To be used in conjunction with the Oddizzi Pathways Document.) Topics covered: *Climate Zones, North America, South America: Rio spotlight*

Place names	Geographical terms and processes	Locational terms
'ABC' islands	architecture	Eastern Hemisphere
Amazon River	arid	latitude
The Andes	axis	longitude
Angel Falls	bay	map index
Antarctic	biome	North Pole
Arctic	climate	northeast
Argentina	climate change	Northern Hemisphere
Bolivia	equatorial	northwest
Brasilia	export	southeast
Cairo (Egypt)	favela	Southern Hemisphere
The Caribbean	glacier	southwest
Central America	grassland	time zone
Cerro Aconcagua	human feature	Tropic of Cancer
Chile	ice-field	Tropic of Capricorn
Columbia	industry	Western Hemisphere
Costa Rica	landscape	
Denali	location	
Dominican Republic	manufacturing	
Ecuador	Mediterranean	
Falkland Islands (Malvinas)	meteorologist	
French Guiana	mineral	
Great Lakes	mountain range	
Greenland	orbit	
Guatemala	physical feature	
Guyana	plantation	
Isthmus of Panama	polar	
Jamaica	precipitation (<i>KS1 snow, rain</i>)	
Lake Titicaca	recreation	
London (UK)	region	
Louisiana	retail	
Manaus (Brazil)	season	
Mississippi River	service industry	
New York	skyline	
Niagara Falls	sphere	
Nuuk (Greenland)	state	
Paraguay	temperature	
Rio de Janeiro	tilt	
Rocky Mountains	trade	
Sandwich Islands	tropical	
Santiago (Chile)	volcano	
Santos	weather station	
São Paulo	wilderness	
Seville (Spain)		
South Georgia		
St Kitts and Nevis		

St Lucia Suriname Uruguay Venezuela		
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Glossary

climate: *long-term weather patterns*

climate zone: *a part of the world where places have a similar climate (i.e. arid, Mediterranean, temperate, tropical, polar)*

culture: *how a group of people does things as part of their way of life*

human features: *features of a place that are a result of human activity, such as shops, farms, homes and roads*

landscape: *what you can see when you look across an area of land*

latitude: *distance from the Equator*

longitude: *distance from the Prime Meridian*

manufacturing: *making things, for example, in factories*

physical features: *natural features of a place, such as mountains, rivers and seas*

Precipitation: *rain, hail, fog, sleet and snow*

recreation: *enjoyable activities, such as swimming or listening to music*

state: *an area of land with its own government. There are 50 states in the USA*

tourism: *travelling as a holidaymaker or sightseer*

trade: *exchanging goods or services, usually for money*