

Year 6 Autumn Term

Geography Knowledge Organiser

Topic:

Explorers: Exploration and Empire (link to History)

Links to other year groups: Y2 (naming continents and oceans), Y3 (use of atlases), Y7 (geography of food), Y9 (population study), Y9 (urban issues – India)

Key Vocabulary:

Continent: a group of countries in the same region of the world

(7: North America, South America, Europe, Africa, Asia, Australasia, Antarctica)

Ocean: a large body of water

(5: Pacific, Atlantic, Indian, Southern, Arctic))

Human Geographical Features:

Settlers created towns on the coasts where there was fresh water (e.g. a river mouth) before moving inland.

Location of countries which made up British Empire (including countries that have since changed their name).

Humans divide landmasses into countries (hence some straight lines on maps) these are shown on **political** maps.

Which resources/foods were traded across the Empire?

Why do people settle in different places or move from one area to another?

Why was India an important part of the British Empire?

Physical Geographical Features:

Location of continents and oceans

Location of north and south poles (there is land at the south pole but not at the north pole).

Natural features, such as rivers and mountains, are shown on **relief** maps.

Key facts/statistics:

The world is a globe and there are a number of different ways to represent it as a 2D image – each one looks slightly different.

European maps are usually shown with Europe in the centre – some American maps show the Americas in the centre etc.

Maps have changed as people discovered new places (e.g. prior to 1492, Europeans did not include the Americas on their maps).

There is no land at the north pole.

The poles were the last areas to be explored.

Humans are currently exploring space and the deep oceans.

Maps

Old world map (1490)



Map centred on the Americas



Different representations:



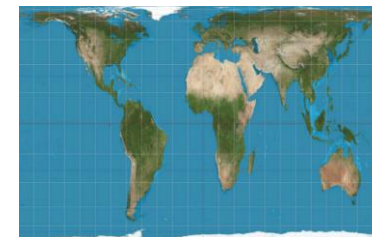
Map of continents/oceans



Map centred on Australia



or...



Lesson Sequence:

- Week One:** Identify continents and oceans and label maps
- Week Two:** Map projections – why are countries presented as they are?
- Week Three:** Identify countries within the Empire and their links between each other
- Week Four:** Scramble for Africa – brief overview of Africa countries and how they were split between various countries (what impact has that had on people today?)
- Week Five:** Products from the Empire and the countries they came from (trade)
- Week Six:** Australia – how does it link to countries within the Empire?
- Week Seven:** Moving from the Empire to the Commonwealth – which countries are still part of this group and where are they located?
Graph work