

Geography- Culcheth Primary School

Intent

The National Curriculum for Geography aims to ensure that all children:

- develop contextual knowledge of the location of globally significant places - both terrestrial and marine - including their defining physical and human characteristics and how these provide a geographical context for understanding the actions of processes
- understand the processes that give rise to key physical and human geographical features of the world, how these are interdependent and how they bring about spatial variation and change over time
- are competent in the geographical skills needed to:
 - collect, analyse and communicate with a range of data gathered through experiences of fieldwork that deepen their understanding of geographical processes
 - interpret a range of sources of geographical information, including maps, diagrams, globes, aerial photographs and Geographical Information Systems (GIS)
 - communicate geographical information in a variety of ways, including through maps, numerical and quantitative skills and writing at length

At Culcheth Primary we believe that geography helps to provoke and provide answers to questions about the natural and human aspects of the world. Children are encouraged to develop a greater understanding and knowledge of the world, as well as their place in it. The geography curriculum at Culcheth Primary enables children to develop knowledge and skills that are transferable to other curriculum areas and be able to provide links between the different subjects they study. Geography is, by nature, an investigative subject, which develops an understanding of concepts, knowledge and skills. We seek to inspire in children a curiosity and fascination about the world and its people, which will remain with them for the rest of their lives; to promote the children's interest and understanding of diverse places, people,

resources and natural and human environments, together with a deep understanding of the Earth's key physical and human processes. The curriculum is designed to develop knowledge and skills that are progressive, as well as transferable. We intend to give them experiences outside the classroom that aides their studying and sparks even more curiosity into the world and the area that they live in. At our school, no child will be disadvantaged because of their lack of experience outside of school - we will create those opportunities, where we can, for all children.

Implementation

Our whole school approach to the teaching and learning of geography captures the school motto of 'Where Learning is Fun'. This is achieved by delivering well-planned, engaging lessons throughout the school and by providing experiences out of the classroom which includes local area studies, fieldwork and trips. We achieve the national curriculum objectives guided by the scheme 'Oddizzi', which has been adapted to ensure children not only cover the national curriculum objectives but thrive on a well-planned curriculum tailor made to our school.

We teach the subject in half-termly blocks, alternating with History. Geography will therefore be taught weekly for that half term, ensuring continuous, systematic learning can be achieved. Where possible links are made with other subjects to ensure geography is embedded within the wider curriculum.

Within our scheme of work, we encourage many practical sessions so that the children get plenty of opportunity to practice and achieve the geography skills required. Evidence is collected from the lesson (mainly photos) and is displayed in class floor books. On top of this, (from year 3 upwards) an individual geography book is given to each child allowing them to record written work from their lessons if appropriate. In Reception the teachers use the Tapestry app to capture learning. The class floor books are designed to be carried forward throughout the class' time at the school. This allows the children and the class teacher to revisit knowledge and skills previously learnt.

To assess the children in geography, we use summative assessments throughout the lessons against the unit's success criteria. The success criteria include all relevant skills and knowledge for that topic. At the end of each unit, a formative assessment is written detailing whether the children have met the success criteria.

Within the geography scheme of work, vocabulary lists have been created for each year group. This ensures that the vocabulary is suitable for the age of the child as well as that there is a clear progression throughout the school. We want our children to have a rich vocabulary range for all of their subjects which we hope they will start to use when speaking and writing.

The implementation of geography is monitored by the subject leader through the checking of evidence in class and individual books, as well as speaking to the children.

Impact

Geography has always been enjoyed at Culcheth Primary due to teaching staff providing well-planned, fun and engaging lessons. Our tailor made curriculum using the scheme 'Oddizzi' provides children with the foundations and knowledge for understanding the world which we hope will spark even more curiosity as the child gets older. Our engagement with the local environment ensures that children learn through varied and first hand experiences of the world around them. Children at Culcheth Primary enjoy geography and this results in motivated learners with good geographical skills and knowledge that will hopefully be embedded in them.