



***At Roding, we are 'Free to Achieve.'***



Ambition



Compassion



Curiosity



Independence



Resilience



Respect

## **Geography**

### **Curriculum Intent**

Our curriculum intent for Geography reflects the purpose and aims of the National Curriculum by helping our pupils to develop a greater understanding and knowledge of the world, as well as their place in it. Our Geography curriculum enables children to develop knowledge and skills that are transferable to other curriculum areas, and which will promote their spiritual, moral, social and cultural development. We aim to develop an awareness of the diverse nature of the UK and global populations and the contributions that different societies, communities and individuals have made to human understanding. 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.

### **Curriculum Implementation**

The curriculum is sequenced in long and medium term plans to help pupils build cumulative knowledge towards agreed milestones. As part of the planning process, teachers will need to refer to the Curriculum Map and Knowledge Finder.

Geography is taught every term throughout the year, so that children can achieve depth in their learning. Teachers have identified the key knowledge and skills of each topic and consideration has been given to ensure progression across topics throughout each year group across the school. At the beginning of each topic, children are able to convey what they know already as well as what they would like to find out during a pre-assessment, which is recorded in their Curriculum Overview books. This informs the programme of study and also ensures that lessons are relevant and take account of children's different starting points. Each geography unit is based around a 'big question', which promotes the pupil'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. Each individual lesson is based around a smaller question, which enables the children to answer the 'big question' at the end of the unit. At the end of each unit, children showcase their learning by completing a post-assessment piece of work. Teachers will use formative assessment methods in order to adapt learning and gain an understanding of the levels of understanding by the pupils.

Learning is supported with knowledge organisers, which allow pupils to focus on building their geography skills. Map skills are embedded throughout geography topics through children regularly using atlases (of which many are found in class book corners) and world and UK maps displayed on working walls during relevant units of learning.

Knowledge from each topic is complemented by relevant non-fiction texts and where appropriate, core texts which are taught in the children's English lessons. For example, Year 1 use the text 'A Stroll through the Seasons' in English whilst learning about 'Wonderful Weather' in Geography and 'The Lighthouse Keeper's Lunch' whilst learning about the seaside. Year 2 use the text 'Cinnamon' in English whilst learning about 'Interesting India'. Year 4 use the text 'The Great Kapok Tree' in English whilst learning about 'Brilliant Brazil'. Shared Reading includes texts such as 'Incredible India' (Year 2), 'Amazing Africa' (Year 3) and 'The Lost Rainforest' (Year 4).

At Roding we are fortunate to have access to a field and forest which can be used to conduct fieldwork, as well as having the River Roding nearby. Our close proximity to London lends itself well to school trips and our pupils often choose to extend their learning outside of school by visiting key landmarks with their families.

Enrichment activities include onsite events such as the EYFS Seaside themed day, Year 1 Autumn treasure hunt, Year 3's VR workshop exploring Africa and Year 4's VR experience exploring the rainforest. Off-site trips include Year 6 visiting the National History Museum as part of their learning about Extreme Earth and a group of Year 5 pupils competing in a local Geography Bee competition.

The discipline of geography is further promoted at Roding via an exciting range of Home Learning tasks, which are celebrated during Open School and Parents' Evenings. For example Year 1 were asked to watch the weather forecast daily and keep a weather diary.

Our 2023/2024 Whole School Project was based around the painting 'Surprised!' by Henri Rousseau and each year group was asked to complete one high quality piece of work linked to Geography/ Science. Nursery, Reception and Year 1 learnt about the weather, with a focus on thunderstorms. Year 2 and 3 learnt about the tropical climate and environment where tigers live in the wild. Year 5 and 6 learnt about the flora and fauna that might be found in the tiger's natural habitat.

## **Curriculum Impact**

Outcomes in Humanities books evidence a broad and balanced Geography curriculum and demonstrate children's acquisition of identified key knowledge. At the end of a topic children have the opportunity to demonstrate their knowledge and understanding in a post-assessment, which is recorded in their Curriculum Overview books. As children progress throughout the school, they develop a deep knowledge, understanding an appreciation of their local area and its place within the wider geographical context.

Enrichment activities, assemblies, year group performances and Home Learning all help to create a 'buzz' about Geography among staff, pupils and their families. A range of the children's learning outcomes are displayed within classrooms and around the school.

At the end of their learning experience at Roding we want our pupils to:

- Be curious about the world and how it has come to be
- Be confident at using maps and conducting fieldwork to understanding location

- Have awareness of our environment, sustainability and suggest ways we can care for our Earth
- Expand their geographical vocabulary
- Describe the impact of natural disasters to living things and the Earth
- Express their opinions and debate geographical concepts
- Be confident discussing a range of physical and human geography