

National Curriculum Geography

Understand geographical similarities and differences through the study of human and physical geography of a region of the United Kingdom.

Name and locate counties and cities of the United Kingdom, geographical regions and their identifying human and physical characteristics, key topographical features (including hills, mountains, coasts and rivers), and land-use patterns; and understand how some of these aspects have changed over time.

Describe and understand key aspects of physical geography, including climate zones, biomes and vegetation belts, rivers, mountains, volcanoes and earthquakes, and the water cycle.

Human geography, including types of settlement and land use, economic activity including trade links, and the distribution of natural resources including energy, food, minerals and water.

Use maps, atlases, globes and digital/computer mapping to locate countries and describe features studied. Use the eight points of a compass, four and six-figure grid references, symbols and key (including the use of Ordnance Survey maps) to build their knowledge of the United Kingdom and the wider world. Use fieldwork to observe, measure, record and present the human and physical features in the local area using a range of methods, including sketch maps, plans and graphs, and digital technologies.

Europe



Key Questions

What is the European Union?

Which currency is used? Why do we have different currencies?

What countries are in Europe?

I live in Europe. How is the temperature similar to/different from other countries in Europe?

Vocabulary

- Europe** one of the seven world continents.
- Continent** a large section of land.
- Country** a nation that has its own government.
- Transcontinental** a country that is in more than one continent.
- Physical feature** a feature that occurs naturally
- Human feature** a feature that is linked to humans.
- Border** a line which separates two countries.
- Peninsula** a piece of land almost completely surrounded by water.
- Mainland** the piece of land that contains most of a country.
- Coastline** where the land meets the sea or ocean.
- Government** the group of people who are responsible for a country.
- Capital city** a city in a country where the government is located.
- Region** an area of land within a country or across countries

Key Learning:	
1	<p>What countries are in Europe? In total, there are 45 countries in Europe today. Conventionally there are four main geographical regions or sub regions in Europe: Northern Europe, Western Europe, Eastern Europe and Southern Europe.</p>
2	<p>Where are the different countries located within Europe? Europe is one of the smaller continents, but it still has a vast array of contrasting landscapes. Europe is the continent on which we live, and is the second smallest of all the continents. Europe is bordered by the Arctic Ocean to the north, the Atlantic Ocean to the west and the Mediterranean Sea to the south. It is important to learn about Europe as it is home to our neighbours who we conduct a vast amount of our trade with.</p>
3	<p>What are the capitals cities of some countries in Europe? A country's capital city is the city where the government of that country is based. Each of the four countries that make up the UK have a capital city (England – London, Northern Ireland – Belfast, Scotland – Edinburgh, Wales – Cardiff). City – a city is larger than a town – usually with a population of over 100,000 people.</p>
4	<p>What are the population of countries in Europe? What currency do countries in Europe use? Population is the number of people living in a certain place. A village, city, state, province, country, and continent all have a population. In 2022, Russia had the largest population among European countries at 144.7 million people, whereas Vatican City is the least populous country, not just in Europe, but in the entire world. Just 825 people live in the 0.17 square miles.</p>
5	<p>What is the temperature in our area? What are the temperatures for some cities around Europe? Climate is the average measurements of wind, rain, snow and humidity in an area over a long period of time, such as years or centuries. It's not quite the same as weather — weather can change on a daily basis. Across the UK, temperatures throughout the year average a daily high of 13 degrees Celsius (55 degrees Fahrenheit) and a low of 6 °C (42 °F).</p>
6	<p>What is a Mountain? What famous mountains are in Europe? Mountains are areas of land that are much higher than the land surrounding them. They are higher and usually steeper than a hill and are generally over 600 metres high. They are often found together in a group called a mountain range. The Alps are easily the most recognizable of the mountains in Europe with their massive snow-capped peaks, green hills, and forests. But there are many other impressive mountain ranges throughout Europe, such as the Pyrenees Mountains and the Caucasus in Eastern Europe. The Ural Mountains are another of the big mountain chains in Europe.</p>
7.	<p>How is Christmas celebrated in different European countries? For many Europeans, the season's main event is Christmas Eve, celebrated with Midnight Mass and a grand meal. Others focus more on Christmas Day and gift-giving. The "Twelve Days of Christmas" stretch from December 25 until January 6, which is Epiphany, the day the Three Kings delivered their gifts.</p>