

## North America Study – Year 6

What do we know about North America and what are its main geographical features? Focus on the USA and Mexico



### Prior Learning

Rivers (Y5) - key rivers of the world, land use around rivers

Rainforests (Y5) – biomes, climate zones, South America: Brazil

Climate Change (Y6) – sustainable development, natural resources, economy

Immigration (Y6 history) colonisation, reasons for immigration

<u>Key question and NC objective</u>		<u>Knowledge to be taught</u>
<b>L1</b>	<p><b>Where are all the North American countries located?</b></p> <p><b><u>LO: identify the countries which make up the continent of North America.</u></b></p> <p>What are the seven continents of the world?</p> <p>Can you locate North America?</p> <p>Which countries make up North America?</p> <p><b>Locational knowledge:</b></p> <p>- locate the world's countries, using maps to focus on Europe (including the location of Russia) and North and South America, concentrating on their environmental regions, key physical and human characteristics, countries, and major cities</p> <p><b>Geographical skills and fieldwork:</b></p> <p>- use maps, atlases, globes and digital/computer mapping to locate countries and describe features studied</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Retrieval - continents of the world</li> <li>• North America – countries that make up the continent, their locations and capital cities.</li> <li>• North America – oceans that surround the continent.</li> <li>• Use an atlas to locate continents, countries and capital cities.</li> </ul>
<b>L2</b>	<p><b>Stars and Stripes launch day – focus on the USA.</b></p> <p><b>LOs:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• to name and locate the states of the USA,</li> <li>• to revise some key mapping knowledge: lines of latitude and longitude, the Equator, the tropics and the eight points of the compass.</li> <li>• to learn about time zones across the USA</li> </ul>	<p>Retrieval: countries of North America</p> <p>Through a series of tasks, the children will learn:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The USA is divided into 50 states and will be able to name some key states.</li> <li>• Revise the 8-points of the compass.</li> <li>• Name and locate key lines of latitude and longitude and understand the link to GPS Equator (Northern Hemisphere, Southern Hemisphere, the Tropics of Cancer and Capricorn, Arctic and</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>to learn about key cities of the USA</li> </ul> <p><b>Locational knowledge:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>locate the world's countries, using maps to focus on North America, concentrating on their environmental regions, key physical and human characteristics, countries, and major cities (USA)</li> <li>identify the position and significance of latitude, longitude, Equator, Northern Hemisphere, Southern Hemisphere, the Tropics of Cancer and Capricorn, Arctic and Antarctic Circle, the Prime/Greenwich Meridian and time zones (including day and night)</li> </ul> <p><b>Place knowledge:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>understand geographical similarities and differences through the study of human and physical geography of a region within North America</li> </ul> <p><b>Geographical skills and fieldwork:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>use maps, atlases, globes and digital/computer mapping to locate countries and describe features studied</li> <li>use the eight points of a compass, to build their knowledge of the wider world</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Antarctic Circle, the Prime/Greenwich Meridian).</li> <li>Learn about World co-ordinates.</li> <li>About World Time Zones and USA Time Zones (number and location).</li> <li>About key USA cities (location, landmarks interesting facts).</li> <li>Locate states and cities of the USA using an atlas or Digi-maps.</li> <li>Use the 8-points of the compass to move between locations in the USA.</li> <li>Locate places in the world using latitude and longitude.</li> <li>Calculate time differences using knowledge of time zones.</li> <li>Ask geographical enquiry questions about places.</li> </ul>
L3	<p><b>What are the USA's key physical features?</b></p> <p><u>LO: to identify the biomes of North America and to locate and name key physical features of the USA.</u></p> <p><b>Place knowledge</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>understand geographical similarities and differences through the study of human and physical geography of a region within North America – USA</li> </ul> <p><b>Human and physical geography:</b></p> <p>describe and understand key aspects of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>physical geography, including: climate zones, biomes and vegetation belts, rivers and mountains</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Retrieval - what a biome is – be able to name: tundra, taiga, grasslands (savannah/prairie), desert, tropical rainforest, temperate forest (deciduous).</li> <li>Name key physical features of the USA. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Rivers: Mississippi, Colorado, Rio Grande, Columbia, Hudson and Missouri (the longest).</li> <li>Great Lakes: Lake Superior, Lake Huron, Lake Erie, Lake Ontario and Lake Michigan.</li> <li>Mountain ranges: Rocky Mountains, Sierra Nevada and the Appalachian Mountains. Denali highest peak.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

		<p>Deserts: Great Basin, Mohave (Death Valley), Sonoran and Chihuahuan Desert.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Use a map to locate biomes and create own sketch map.</li> <li>• Locate key physical geographical features using atlases and investigate what they are like using Google Earth and the Internet to research.</li> </ul>
-L4	<p>Where do people live in the USA and what physical and human factors influence this?</p> <p><u>LO: to identify where people live in the USA and the factors that influence where people live.</u></p> <p><b>Place knowledge:</b> - understand geographical similarities and differences through the study of human and physical geography of a region within North America (USA)</p> <p><b>Human and physical geography:</b> - describe and understand key aspects of: - human geography, including: types of settlement and land use</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Retrieval – longest river in the world and USA, highest mountain in the world and USA</li> <li>• to describe how the distribution of people has changed in the USA over time.</li> <li>• to discuss why there are more people in some places than other places, introducing the terms population distribution and population density.</li> <li>• Where are the most densely populated places in the USA? Why?</li> <li>• Where are the most sparsely populated places in the USA? Why?</li> <li>• How do populations of states differ?</li> <li>• What factors affect population change?</li> <li>• What will happen to the population of the USA in the future?</li> <li>• To use population data to shade the following on to an outline map of the USA: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The top 10 states by population (Table 1)</li> <li>- The bottom 10 states by population (Table 2)</li> <li>- identify the five most and least populous cities of the USA using data</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
L5	<p><u>What do we know about how the USA's natural resources helped it to be one of</u></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Retrieval – state with highest and lowest population</li> </ul>

	<p><b><u>the world's most wealthy and powerful countries?</u></b></p> <p><b><u>LO: to identify the USA's natural resources and how they helped it to be one of the world's most wealthy and powerful countries.</u></b></p> <p><b>Human and physical geography:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- describe and understand key aspects of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- human geography, including: types of settlement and land use, economic activity including trade links, and the and the distribution of natural resources including energy, food, minerals and water</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• know what GDP (Gross Domestic Product) means in relation to a country's economy.</li> <li>• Revise what natural resources are and identify the USA's advantageous natural resources: large landmass, expansive coastlines, fertile land, fresh water, oil and coal, and a diverse population.</li> <li>• Understand how these resources contribute the USA being the world's leading economic power.</li> </ul>
<p>L6</p>	<p>How does life in Mexico differ to that in the USA?</p> <p><b><u>LO: to learn about what life is like in Mexico.</u></b></p> <p><b>Locational knowledge:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- locate the world's countries, using maps to focus on North America, concentrating on their environmental regions, key physical and human characteristics, countries, and major cities</li> </ul> <p><b>Place knowledge:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- understand geographical similarities and differences through the study of human and physical geography of a region within North America (Mexico)</li> </ul> <p><b>Geographical skills and fieldwork:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- use maps, atlases, globes and digital/computer mapping to locate countries and describe features studied</li> <li>- use the eight points of a compass, to build their knowledge of the wider world</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Retrieval – capital of USA, oceans around USA, countries with land borders.</li> <li>• Identify flag of Mexico, capital city (Mexico City) and the currency (Peso) and other key geographical features.</li> <li>• know what a UNESCO site is and name some located within Mexico.</li> <li>• know some of the key differences between living in Mexico and the USA.</li> <li>• Identify key reasons for Mexicans wanting to emigrate to the USA (poverty, job opportunities, quality of life etc.)</li> <li>• Use secondary sources to research the country of Mexico.</li> <li>• Use Digi-maps to investigate what Mexico is like.</li> </ul>
<p>L7</p>	<p><b>Why did immigration play a key part in the development of the USA?</b></p> <p><b><u>LO: to learn about USA immigration and its impact.</u></b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Retrieval – identify US states, reasons why someone from Mexico might emigrate?</li> </ul>

	<p><b>Human and physical geography:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- describe and understand key aspects of:</li> <li>- human geography, including: types of settlement and land use, economic activity including the distribution of natural resources</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To know who the indigenous people of the USA were and how immigration has changed the country.</li> <li>• To know which groups of people emigrated to the US and why (English 1600s colonisation / Irish 1800s potato famine, religious freedom, cheaper transport).</li> <li>• To undertake geographical enquiry skills through secondary research.</li> </ul>
	<b>Vocabulary</b>	
<b>Tier 1</b>	<p>river mountain lake desert coal oil gas agriculture</p> <p>push and pull factors</p>	
<b>Tier 2</b>	<p>North America USA state time zone desert grassland rainforest</p> <p>deciduous forest taiga tundra Population density dense sparse</p> <p>distribution resource economy landmass labour force immigration emigration</p> <p>indigenous North American Indian reservation</p>	
<b>Tier 3</b>	<p>Biome latitude longitude hemisphere GDP (Gross Domestic Product) UNESCO</p> <p>Comparative advantage</p>	