Framework for progression in geographical vocabulary



Progression in Vocabulary - Year 1

During Year 1, children should become familiar with the following words and begin to use them in appropriate contexts.

Topics covered: Weather and Seasons, United Kingdom, Local Area

Place names	Geographical terms and	Locational terms
Antarctica	processes	a a range
	autumn	across
Belfast	building	Arctic
Ben Nevis	capital city	east
Cardiff	castle	inside
Earth	city	local
Edinburgh	cloud	north
England	country	northern
English Channel	countryside	outside
Europe	freezing	polar
Ireland	frosty	south
Irish Sea	ground	west
London	island	Prepositions and direction-finding
North Atlantic Ocean	map	terms such as, above, around,
Northern Ireland	misty	below, left, right, forward, near,
River Thames	month	inside, opposite, outside
Scotland	office	
Wales	rain	
	route	
Local Area	season	
West Yorkshire	shop	
Leeds	snow	
St Mary's CV Academy	spring	
Horsforth	street	
	summer	
	sunshine	
	symbol	
	temperature	
	thunderstorm	
	town	
	village	
	warm	
	wind	
	windy	
	windy	
	The months of the year	

Glossary

capital city: the city where a country's government is located such as London or Edinburgh

country: an area of land that has its own government, such as the UK or France

feature: something you would find in a place that is usually there (such as a hill or a house)

map symbol: a small picture on a map that shows you where different things are (such as a bus station

or a school)

rain gauge: a tool you can use to show how much it has rained

route: how you get from one place to another (for example, "you walk up the hill and turn towards the

school when you get to the top)"

rural: a rural area has fewer people living there. Rural areas include the countryside, villages and hamlets.

season: a time of the year with a particular type of weather

settlement: a place where people live **temperature**: how hot or cold it is

urban: an urban area has lots of people living there. Towns, cities and suburbs are all urban areas.

Progression in Vocabulary - Year 2



During Year 2, children should be able to make appropriate use of the words they have learned during Year 1. They should become familiar with the following additional words, in the context of the places and topics being studied.

Topics covered: Continents and Oceans, Hot and Cold Places, Mugumareno Village Zambia

Place names	Geographical terms and	Locational terms
	processes	
Amazon Rainforest	adapt	Antarctic Circle
Atacama Desert	atlas	Arctic Circle
Australia	cargo	eastern
Brazil	continent	The Equator
Canada	coral reef	hemisphere
China	crop	North Pole
Egypt	desert	South Pole
France	farm	southern
India	field	western
Kenya	flood	
Lusaka	globe	
Madagascar	habitat	
Mexico	hibernate	
Norway	human	
Peru	iceberg	
River Zambezi	market	
Sahara Desert	mining	
South Africa	national park	
Southern Africa	ocean	
Spain	physical	
United States of America	population	
Victoria Falls	rainforest	
Zambia	recycling	
The continents: Antarctica,	savanna	
Africa, Asia, Europe, North	soil	
America, Oceania and South	waterfall	
America	wildlife	
The oceans: Arctic, Atlantic,		
Indian, Pacific and Southern		

Glossary

adapt: find ways to survive in a place (such as using less water in a desert or keeping warm near the North Pole)

continent: a very large area of land

crops: plants that are grown to be used or sold (such as rice, corn or fruit)

The Equator: an invisible line that runs around the centre of the Earth, halfway between the North and

South Poles

habitat: the natural home of an animal or plant

hemisphere: half of the globe ocean: a huge area of salty water

population: the number of people living in a place **wildlife**: the wild animals and plants in an area

Progression in Vocabulary - Year 3



During Year 3, children should be able to make appropriate use of the words they have learned during KS1. Over the course of the year, they should become familiar with the following additional words, in the context of the places and topics being studied.

Topics covered: Climate Zones, North America, Local Area

Place names	Geographical terms and	Locational terms
	processes	
'ABC' islands	architecture	Eastern Hemisphere
Angel Falls	arid	latitude
Antarctic	axis	longitude
Arctic	bay	map index
Cairo (Egypt)	biome	North Pole
The Caribbean	climate	northeast
Central America	climate change	Northern Hemisphere
Denali	equatorial	northwest
Dominican Republic	export	southeast
French Guiana	favela	Southern Hemisphere
Great Lakes	glacier	southwest
Greenland	grassland	time zone
Guatemala	human feature	Tropic of Cancer
Horsforth	ice-field	Tropic of Capricorn
Horsforth Hall Park	industry	Western Hemisphere
Jamaica	landscape	4 figure grid reference
London (UK)	location	3 3
Louisiana	manufacturing	
Mississippi River	Mediterranean	
New York	meteorologist	
Niagara Falls	mineral	
Nuuk (Greenland)	mountain range	
,	orbit	
Rocky Mountains	physical feature	
Sandwich Islands	plantation	
Seville (Spain)	polar	
South Georgia	precipitation (KS1 snow, rain)	
St Kitts and Nevis	recreation	
St Lucia	region	
St Mary's Church	retail	
St Mary's School	season	
Town Street	service industry	
TOWIT SHEEL	skyline	
	sphere	
	state	
	temperature	
	tilt	
	trade	

tropical	
volcano	
weather station	
wilderness	

Glossary

climate: long-term weather patterns

climate zone: a part of the world where places have a similar climate (i.e. arid, Mediterranean,

temperate, tropical, polar)

culture: how a group of people does things as part of their way of life

human features: features of a place that are a result of human activity, such as shops, farms, homes

and roads

landscape: what you can see when you look across an area of land

latitude: distance from the Equator

longitude: distance from the Prime Meridian

manufacturing: making things, for example, in factories

physical features: natural features of a place, such as mountains, rivers and seas

Precipitation: rain, hail, fog, sleet and snow

recreation: enjoyable activities, such as swimming or listening to music

state: an area of land with its own government. There are 50 states in the USA

tourism: travelling as a holidaymaker or sightseer trade: exchanging goods or services, usually for money



Progression in Vocabulary - Year 4

During Year 4, children should be able to appropriately use and apply the words they have learned during Years 1-3. Over the course of the year, they should become familiar with the following additional words, in the context of the places, topics and concepts being studied. (To be used in conjunction with the Oddizzi Pathways Document.) Topics covered: *Rivers, Rainforests, South America: The Amazon Basin*

Place names	Geographical terms and	Locational terms
	processes	
Amazon Basin	acid rain	altitude
Amur River	agriculture	equatorial
Congo Forest	biodiversity	estuary
Congo River	biome	International Date Line
Democratic Republic of the	canal	lower course
Congo	canopy	middle course
Ethiopia	channel	Prime Meridian
Indonesia	condensation	upper course
Lake Tanganyika	confluence	
Ob-Irtysh River	dam	
Paraná River	deforestation	
River Niger	drainage	
River Nile	drinking water	
River Thames	ecosystem	
South Sudan	embankment	
Sudan	emergent layer	
Uganda	environment	
Yangtze River	environmentalist	

Yellow River erosion Yenisei River evaporation fertile flooding flood management flood plain flood prevention forest floor freshwater groundwater humidity hydro-electric power indigenous irrigation logging meander mouth pollution poverty river bank river basin source transportation tributary understory valley vegetation water cycle watershed

Glossary

agriculture: farming

biodiversity: the number of different types of plants and animals found in a particular environment

biome: a community of plants and animals that is suited to a particular climate **drainage**: how water flows away from an area through rivers and streams

ecosystem: a community of plants and animals that affect each other and the area around them

equatorial: the hot, wet climate in areas close to the Equator

erosion: how wind, water and waves break down and remove rock and soil

flood management: stopping or controlling floods

flood prevention: stopping floods

irrigation: the supply of water, especially for growing crops

Prime Meridian: the line of longitude from which time is measured

rainforests: forests that are home to many different types of plants and animals. They are located close

to the Equator in places with a tropical climate, which is warm and wet all year round.

river basin: the area of land drained by a river and all its tributaries

Progression in Vocabulary - Year 5

During Year 5, children should be able to appropriately use and apply the words they have learned during KS1 and lower KS2. Over the course of the year, they should become familiar with the following additional words, in the context of the places, topics and concepts being studied.

Topics covered: Mountains, Volcanoes and Earthquakes, European region



Place names	Geographical terms and	Locational terms
Place names	processes	Locational terms
Athens	aftershock	altitude
Austria	alpine	epicentre
Belgium	ash cloud	height above sea level
Ben Nevis	avalanche	map reference
Berlin	border	plate boundary
Bucharest	cliff face	praid bearrain,
Carstensz Pyramid (Puncak	core	
Jaya)	crater	
Caucasus	crust	
Croatia	currency	
Czech Republic (Czechia)	disaster	
Etna	dome mountains	
European Union	dormant	
Everest	eruption	
Eyjafjallajökull	fault line	
Germany	fault-block mountains	
Greece	fire mountains (volcanoes)	
Haiti	fold mountains	
Hawaii	geothermal	
Himalayas	hill	
Iceland	international	
Japan	landform	
Kilimanjaro	landslide	
Lisbon	lava	
Macedonia		
Malta	magma mantle	
Madrid	massif	
Mauna Loa	migrant	
Mediterranean Sea	peak	
Mount Elbrus	plate	
Mount Snowdon	refugee	
Mount St Helens	retail	
Nepal	Richter Scale	
The Netherlands	ridge	
Pacific Ring of Fire	scree	
Pakistan	service industry	
Paris	slope	
Pennines	summit	
Popocatépetl	tectonic	
Poland	tremor	
Portugal	tsunami	
Romania	vegetation belt	
Rome	vegetation beit vent	
Scafell Pike	VOIIL	
Scottish Highlands		
Sicily		
Slieve Donard		
Somalia		
Soufrière		
Syria Tanzania		
Ukraine		
Vesuvius Vinson Massif		
Warsaw		

Glossary

border: A line that separates two countries. You may need a passport to pass from one country to the

other

dome mountains: mountains formed by magma pushing upwards, but without a volcanic eruption

dormant: a dormant volcano is one, like Kilimanjaro, that has not erupted for a long time

epicentre: where an earthquake starts and is felt most strongly

European Union: a group of countries in Europe that co-operate on trade and many other aspects of life

fault-block mountains: mountains formed by parts of a broken plate being forced upwards

fire mountains: mountains formed by volcanic eruptions

fold mountains: mountains formed by the earth's plates pushing together

scale bar: a line that shows how many kilometres there would be in the real world for every centimetre

on a map

tsunami: a huge, powerful wave caused by an earthquake

Progression in Vocabulary - Year 6

During Year 6, children should be able to appropriately use and apply the words they have learned in earlier years. Over the course of the year, they should become familiar with the following additional words, in the context of the places, topics and concepts being studied.

Topics covered: United Kingdom, , Coasts, Local Area and Region UKS2

Place names	Geographical terms and	Locational terms
	processes	
Birmingham	administrative centre	6 figure grid reference
Bristol	aerial view	offshore
East of England	arch	onshore
East Midlands	built environment	16-point compass terms (e.g.
Elland Road	cave	North-North-West, West-North-
Great Britain	coastline	West, etc.)
Greater London	congestion	
Headingley Stadium	consultation	
Holderness Coast	developer	
Inverness	development	
Leeds	economy	
Leeds Arena	energy source	
Leeds Art Gallery	erosion	
Leeds Bradford Airport	finance	
Leeds Grand Theatre	global warming	
Leeds Town Hall	green belt	
Leeds Train station	greenhouse gases	
Leeds Trinity Shopping Centre	hydroelectric power	
Liverpool	key	
London Array	landmark	
Manchester_	land use	
North East England	mudflat	
North West England	national	
Oxford	nuclear power	
Sheffield	planning	
South East England	power station	
South West England	renewable energy	

River Aire sand dunes West Midlands solar power Yorkshire and the Humber stack UK – the main cities, counties stump and regions suburb sustainable development tidal power warehouse wind farm wind power wind turbine

Glossary

development: how places and communities change **economy**: the wealth and resources of a place

grid reference: a set of numbers used to find particular places on a map

industry: the production of goods (such as cars) or services (such as tourism or entertainment)

land use: what land is used for (such as housing, recreation, farming, etc.)

sustainable development: change that respects the natural environment and doesn't harm future

generations