

These six-lesson schemes of work provide a framework to teach a unit of KS2 geography. See the notes in red under each heading below for further details on how these schemes are structured. To give you flexibility with your lessons, additional resources are listed under: Reading Resources, Enquiry Activities, Vocabulary Game, Assessment/End of Topic Review and Making Connections Across Subjects. These can be used in addition to the Lesson Resources if you have more time or more than six lessons in your unit.

Enquiry Theme:

An overarching enquiry question to form the basis of your lesson.

Learning Objective:

The lesson's objective.

Success Criteria:

What the children should achieve by the end of the lesson.

Reading Resources

Any guided reading texts, fact files or word mats related to the lesson will be referenced here. They can be used in addition to the lesson resources or as support during the lesson.

Key Words

A group of suggested words that can be displayed during the lesson to support learning.

Lesson Resources

Here you will find a list of all of the resources you need for each lesson. Before the lesson begins, you will need to open the relevant PowerPoint presentation (oddizzi.com - teachers - topic planning). Paper-based resources will need to be printed for pupils to use. Physical resources will also be listed here, such as atlases and apparatus. All topics begin with a Knowledge Organiser which can be found in the resource pack.

Main Teaching Points

An overview of the lesson is highlighted.

PowerPoint slide numbers for each lesson are clearly identified.

Online pages/films to support the PowerPoint are referenced.

Pupil Activities

Whole class activity

This provides a chronological commentary for the activities the children will carry out during the lesson using the lesson resources.

Atlas activity

An activity that involves the use of an atlas to explore the lesson objective.

Practical activity

This provides the option of an activity that is more hands-on.

Enquiry activities

Open and closed enquiry questions can be used as a dialogue throughout the lesson, as a focus point to drive learning forward or as a plenary.

The What If questions can also be used verbally, as a whole class activity or as an individual written extension activity during a lesson.

Vocabulary game

There are two vocabulary games in each unit, in lessons three and six. They are to be played as a whole class, in teams of two.

Assessment/End of topic review

An assessment paper that can be used to individually track learning or as a whole-class end-of-topic review.

Making connections across subjects

Suggested additional activities for the lesson that link to other subjects, such as English or Maths.

National Curriculum links

- National Curriculum statements that relate to the lesson will be displayed here.

All resources can be found at: oddizzi.com - teachers - topic planning - North America

Enquiry Theme:

Where is North America and what is it like?

Learning Objective:

Locate North America on a world map, including through using latitude and longitude.

Success Criteria:

I can locate North America on a world map, using latitude and longitude.

Reading Resources

To use in English lessons, guided reading sessions, small group work, or as homework tasks.

Word Mat: Human geography

Word Mat: Physical geography

Key Words

The Caribbean	longitude
Central America	Mississippi River
Denali	Northern Hemisphere
Great Lakes	Western Hemisphere
latitude	

Lesson Resources

PowerPoint: North America

Knowledge Organiser: North America

Online Page: See Main Teaching Points

Film: See Main Teaching Points

Online Map: Interactive OddPod Map

KS2 Activities: 1. North America 2. Introducing North America

Map Resource: For Lower KS2: 1. Using latitude and longitude map A; 3. Using latitude and longitude A activity; 5. Using latitude and longitude - answer sheet. For Upper KS2: 2. Using latitude and longitude map B; 4. Using latitude and longitude map B; 5. Using latitude and longitude - answer sheet.

Main Teaching Points

In this lesson, children locate North America and some of its key features on a world map.

Online Pages: Explore the world - Places - North America continent overview

Film: Explore the world - Places - North America - Welcome to North America

North America PowerPoint - Slides 2 to 23

Pupil Activities

Whole class activity

Read through the **Knowledge Organiser** for this topic as a class. Using the Oddizzi online world map and the North America continent overview, children locate North America and shade it in on **Sheet 1. North America**, before completing the information boxes on this sheet.

Children recap basic knowledge about continents (slides 3-5).

They consider how latitude affects the climate of North America (slides 6-10).

Children use lines of latitude and longitude to locate continents and oceans around the world, as indicated on **1. Using latitude and longitude map A**. (Map and Activity B for Upper KS2 pupils.) They use this information to reference their locations, using Worksheet 3. **Using latitude and longitude A activity**.

Drawing on this knowledge and the North America continent overview, they then outline some of the continent's key features on **2. Introducing North America**.

Atlas activity

Children identify the specific places marked on the **Latitude and Longitude Map**, using the index and map references in a world atlas.

Lesson continues on next sheet

National Curriculum links

- Locate the world's countries, using maps to focus on North America, concentrating on its environmental regions and key physical and human characteristics.
- Identify the position and significance of latitude and longitude.

North America

All resources can be found at: oddizzi.com - teachers - topic planning - North America

Enquiry Theme:

Where is North America and what is it like?

Learning Objective:

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Success Criteria:

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Reading Resources

To use in English lessons, guided reading sessions, small group work, or as homework tasks.

Word Mat: Human geography

Word Mat: Physical geography

Key Words

The Caribbean	longitude
Central America	Mississippi River
Denali	Northern Hemisphere
Great Lakes	Western Hemisphere
latitude	

Continued

Enquiry activities

- How far south, north, east and west does North America go?
- What interesting things might I find in North America?
- What happens in landscapes at different latitudes?
- How can I use lines of latitude and longitude together?

What if ... the whole of North America was 20 degrees further North?

Making connections across subjects

Maths: Use map references to introduce grids and graphs that use horizontal and vertical axes.

Quiz

Play individually, as a class or at home. North America

National Curriculum links

- Locate the world's countries, using maps to focus on North America, concentrating on its environmental regions and key physical and human characteristics.
- Identify the position and significance of latitude and longitude.

All resources can be found at: oddizzi.com - teachers - topic planning - North America

Enquiry Theme:

Where and what is the United States of America?

Learning Objective:

Children locate the United States of America and explain its name.

Success Criteria:

I can find the United States of America on a map and explain its name.

Reading Resources

To use in English lessons, guided reading sessions, small group work, or as homework tasks.

Word Mat: Human geography

Word Mat: Physical geography

Knowledge organiser: North America

Key Words

Canada
The Caribbean
Central America
Mexico
state

Lesson Resources

PowerPoint: North America

Online Pages: See Main Teaching Points

Film: See Main Teaching Points

Online Map: Interactive OddPod Map

KS2 Activity: 'America the Beautiful'

Map Resources: 1. Locating countries in North America, 2. USA States 1, 3. USA States 2

Main Teaching Points

In this lesson, children locate some of the countries of North America, before being introduced to the United States of America.

Online Pages: Explore the world - Places - North America - North America continent overview

Film: Explore the world - Places - North America - USA - America the Beautiful

North America PowerPoint - Slides 24-31

Pupil Activities

Whole class activity

Using map resource 1. **Locating countries in North America**, alongside the North America continent overview and online maps, children identify and locate selected countries of North America, including the USA. They name and find some of the capital cities. (Slides 25 and 26).

Children watch the film, **Get a bird's eye view of the USA**, and note down some of their first impressions of the USA on the **America the Beautiful** sheet.

Working as two groups, children use Map Resources 2. **USA States 1** and 3. **USA States 2**, alongside online or print maps and aerial views of the USA, to locate selected states. Each group is also asked to think about why the USA is so named.

The two groups compare notes and each group offers an explanation for the name of the United States of America.

Enquiry activities

- How many independent countries are there in North America?
- Can you find a North American country that is closely linked to a country in Europe?
- What is the difference between a state and a country? What about a nation?
- What does it mean for a country to be 'united' (like the UK and the USA, for example)?

What if ... half the provinces of Canada chose to become states of the USA?

National Curriculum links

- Locate the world's countries, using maps to focus on North America, concentrating on its environmental regions, key physical and human characteristics, countries, and major cities.
- Use maps, atlases, globes and digital/computer mapping to locate countries and describe features studied.

All resources can be found at: oddizzi.com - teachers - topic planning - North America

Enquiry Theme:

What are the Rockies like?

Learning Objective:

To understand the human and physical geography of the Rockies.

Success Criteria:

I can outline the main physical features of the Rockies and how people use them.

Reading Resources

To use in English lessons, guided reading sessions, small group work, or as homework tasks.

Guided Reading: Tour the Rockies!

Word Mat: Physical geography

Key Words

glacier	national park
habitat	wilderness
mountain range	wildlife

Lesson Resources

PowerPoint: North America

Online Pages: See Main Teaching Points

Main Teaching Points

Children use the brochure in the Tour the Rockies! guided reading to investigate their key features.

Online Pages: Explore the world - Physical features - Mountains - Case studies - The Rockies

North America PowerPoint - Slides 32 to 35

Pupil Activities

Whole class activity

Children read the brochure in the Tour the Rockies! guided reading to locate the Rockies and investigate their key features.

They then complete the guided reading worksheets to outline some of these features and describe the activities that people can do there at different times of year.

Atlas activity

Children locate the Rockies, some of the principal peaks and National Parks, using the index and map references in a world atlas.

Enquiry activities

- What states and provinces are the Rockies in?
- How do people use the Rockies at different times of year?
- How did the Rockies come into being?
- Why do countries have National Parks?

What if ... the Athabasca Glacier disappeared completely?

Vocabulary game

Working in two groups, children list as many adjectives as possible in ten minutes that can be used to describe the Rockies. They can only use words that begin with r, o, c, k, i, e, or s! (e.g. rugged, outdoor, cold ...). There might not be suitable words for every letter! Afterwards, they can use their words to compose acrostic poems.

Making connections across subjects

English: Using the information in this brochure, children write the script for a 30-second radio advert for the Rockies.

They could also lay out the information as a newsletter, using an online resource like smore.com

National Curriculum links

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

All resources can be found at: [oddizzi.com](https://www.oddizzi.com) - teachers - topic planning - North America

Enquiry Theme:

What happened when Mount St Helens erupted?

Learning Objective:

To describe the volcanic eruptions at Mount St Helens and the impact they have had on the surrounding area.

Success Criteria:

I can describe the volcanic eruptions at Mount St Helens and the impact they have had on the surrounding area.

Reading Resources

To use in English lessons, guided reading sessions, small group work, or as homework tasks.

Volcanoes Factfile: Mount St Helens

Key Words

Cascades
eruption
mountain range
north-west

Lesson Resources

PowerPoint: North America

Online Pages: See Main Teaching Points

Film: See Main Teaching Points

KS2 Activities: Mount St Helens Worksheet

Main Teaching Points

Children use evidence from film footage to consider the past, present and future of the area around Mount St Helens.

Online Pages: Explore the world - Physical features - Volcanoes - Famous volcanoes - Mt St Helens

Film: Explore the world - Physical features - Volcanoes - Famous volcanoes - Mount St Helens

North America Powerpoint - Slides 36 to 39

Pupil Activities

Whole class activity

Children use the Oddizzi online world map to locate the Cascades mountain range and, within it, Mount St Helens.

Children watch the first film on the online page: **Mount St Helens**, also looking at the still photographs on the online page. They note key points on questions 1-4 of the **Mount St Helens** Worksheet. Children draw the mountain before and after the 1980 eruption (question 5).

Children then watch the two short online films about the 2004 eruption and its aftermath. They discuss what they have seen in the films, before answering Question 6: what Mount St Helens might look like 50 years from now.

Enquiry activities

- Where is Mount St Helens?
- Why do some places have more volcanoes than others?
- What does this story tell us about how landscapes change?
- Is it ever safe to live near a volcano like Mount St Helens?

What if ... the volcano had been underwater?

Making connections across subjects

Maths: The Mount St Helens devastation zone covered an area of nearly 400 square kilometres. Every living thing in this zone was killed: 57 people, 7,000 big animals (including bears, deer and elk) and 12,000,000 fish. How many more big animals died than people? How many more fish than big animals? Can children show this as a fraction? Roughly how many fish died, on average, in every square kilometre?

National Curriculum links

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

All resources can be found at: [oddizzi.com](https://www.oddizzi.com) - teachers - topic planning - North America

Enquiry Theme:

Which US state would I like to live in and why?

Learning Objective:

To investigate and evaluate the key features of a US state.

Success Criteria:

I can find out about a US state and explain what it would be like to live there.

Reading Resources

To use in English lessons, guided reading sessions, small group work, or as homework tasks.

Word Mat: Human Geography

Word Mat: Physical Geography

Key Words

facilities	landscape
state	location
human	physical features
features	

Lesson Resources

PowerPoint: North America

Online Page: See Main Teaching Points

Films: See Main Teaching Points

KS2 Activities: 1. Letter writing template 2. Word Ban - North America

Main Teaching Points

Children work in groups to investigate different US states and evaluate their qualities as places in which to live.

Online Pages: *Explore the world - Places - North America - USA - Hawaii*

Film: *Explore the world - Places - North America - USA - State film gallery - Take a tour of some US states*

Film: *Explore the world - Places - North America - USA - State film gallery - Fly over Louisiana and the Mississippi*

North America PowerPoint - Slides 40 to 42

Pupil Activities

Whole class activity

Short whole-class discussion: what makes a place good to live in?

Children work in nine small groups to use film and other evidence to research a US state. Sources include the Films: 1. **Take a tour of different states of the USA** (8 different states: Arizona, South Dakota, Montana, Louisiana, Maine, Nebraska, Tennessee and Wyoming), 2. **Fly over Louisiana and the Mississippi** and Online page: **Hawaii**. They should also use other online and print sources (this would make an ideal weekend homework task).

Each group composes a persuasive letter, which sets out the case for their state as a good place to live in. They can use the **Letter writing template** for this. The letter should include comments on the state's:

- climate;
- location;
- facilities (human features);
- landscape (physical features);
- ... and one other category identified during the initial whole-class discussion.

Each group then passes its letter on to the next table, so that every group is now looking at a letter about another group's state.

The new group evaluates the other group's letter, using up to four stars for each of the five headings: 4 stars = amazing; 3 = good; 2 = OK; 1 = not great.

Lesson continues on next sheet

National Curriculum links

- 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.

All resources can be found at: oddizzi.com - teachers - topic planning - North America

Enquiry Theme:

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Learning Objective:

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Success Criteria:

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Reading Resources

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Word Mat: Human geography

Word Mat: Physical geography

Key Words

facilities	landscape
state	location
human	physical features
features	

Continued

The teacher asks the class for examples of the state/s with the highest rating for climate. Groups offer their rating and their reason for it. This is noted on the board/IWB. The group that composed the letter for the highest-ranked state/s is invited to comment. The teacher then asks, in sequence, about location, facilities, landscape and the fifth additional category.

Whole-class discussion: is one state emerging ahead of the others (e.g. with a maximum 20 out of 20 stars?) or are the benefits of states spread out between them? Why might that be? Which arguments are proving the most persuasive?

Atlas activity

Children use an atlas to identify supporting evidence for their letter (e.g. the state's climate, location and key features)

Extension activity

Children use the **Word Ban** sheet to describe vocabulary they have acquired throughout the unit to their peers.

Enquiry activities

- What is it like to live in different states of the USA?
- What are the similarities and differences between different US states?
- How might climate and landscape influence the quality of life in a place?
- What things might different people want when choosing a place to live?

What if ... nobody wanted to live in one of the US states?

Making connections across subjects

English: persuasive letter-writing.

Maths: the ratings for different states could be expressed as fractions, percentages and/or in a series of bar graphs.

National Curriculum links

- 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.

All resources can be found at: [oddizzi.com](https://www.oddizzi.com) - teachers - topic planning - North America

Enquiry Theme:

How does New York compare with my home area?

Learning Objective:

To compare and contrast New York with the children's home area.

Success Criteria:

I can compare New York with my home area.

Reading Resources

To use in English lessons, guided reading sessions, small group work, or as homework tasks.

Word Mat: Human geography

Word Mat: Physical geography

Key Words

north-east	state
rural	urban

Lesson Resources

PowerPoint: North America

Films: See Main Teaching Points

KS2 Activities: 1. Film – Welcome to New York City 2. NY: The city and the state 3. Comparing NY to where I live

Main Teaching Points

Children use film evidence to compare New York State and City with their home area.

Film: Explore the world - Places - North America - USA - New York State - Take a helicopter ride over New York State

Film: Explore the world - Places - North America - USA - New York City - Fly over New York City

North America PowerPoint - Slides 43 to 47

Pupil Activities

Whole class activity

Children watch the film **Fly over New York City**. Working in pairs, they use the activity sheet film **Welcome to New York City** to answer questions about what they notice on the film about the city and its main features.

They then watch the film **Take a helicopter ride over New York State** and individually complete the activity sheet **NY: The city and the state**.

Working in small groups, they identify features for inclusion on the framework **Comparing NY to where I live**. Which human and physical features are only found in their own area or in New York State? Which can be found in both?

Enquiry activities

- What is New York City like?
- What would you see if you flew over New York State?
- Why are there so many tall buildings in New York City?
- Why is New York similar to, or different from, the place where I live?

What if ... New York was the capital city of the USA?

Lesson continues on next sheet

National Curriculum links

- Describe and understand key aspects of: 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.

All resources can be found at: oddizzi.com - teachers - topic planning - North America

Enquiry Theme:

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Reading Resources

To use in English lessons, guided reading sessions, small group work, or as homework tasks.

Word Mat: Human geography

Word Mat: Physical geography

Key Words

north-east	state
rural	urban

Continued

Vocabulary game

Having completed the framework **Comparing NY to where I live**, the smaller groups form two larger groups. A third circle is added to the Venn Diagram: this time for the distant locality they studied in KS1 (e.g. Mugurameno, for schools following the Pathways). Which words would they need to add for this third place? Which words apply to all these places and either New York State or their home area? Which words can be used for all three places?

They have fifteen minutes to complete this task. The children in each group are then given highlighters or coloured pens and silently review the other group's diagram, adding questions or comments to it. The groups then return to their own diagram, review the comments and, if necessary, ask the other group for clarification about what they have written.

Assessment/End of topic review

Working individually, children sketch out a story-board for a short tourist information film about North America. (End Point Assessment Activity.)

- This should include some basic information about the continent and its countries.
- There should be a rough sketch-map that shows 5 important features.
- The film should also include a selection of at least 3 images of wild areas, states and cities for people to visit, with a short caption for each image explaining what it is and why it would be of interest.

Quiz

Play individually, as a class or at home. North America

National Curriculum links

- Describe and understand key aspects of: 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.