

Synergy Schools Federation – Substantive Knowledge Overview for units

KSI Units

<p><i>How are the four countries in the UK special?</i> United Kingdom</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. I can name and locate the United Kingdom and the four countries of the United Kingdom on a map. 2. I can identify the four capital cities and surrounding seas of the United Kingdom on a map. 3. I can explain the differences between human and physical features. 4. I can describe the human and physical features of one of the UK's capital cities. 5. I can describe the characteristics of the four countries of the United Kingdom. 	<p><i>How are hot and cold places different?</i> Hot and Cold Places</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. I can identify hot and cold places and locate them on a map. 2. I can recognise the human and physical features of a hot and cold place. 3. I can explore and describe hot places. 4. I can explore and describe cold places. 5. I can identify the animals that live in hot and cold places and recognise how they adapt. 	<p><i>How do Mugumareno and our local area compare?</i> Mugumareno Village, Zambia</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. I know how to locate Zambia and the village of Mugumareno on a map. 2. I know how people use the river in Mugumareno. 3. I know how people protect themselves and their homes from wild animals. 4. I know what food people eat in Mugumareno. 5. I know what materials are used to build houses in Mugumareno. 6. I know what life is like for children living in Mugumareno. <p><i>*If using a different area adapt the above to fit with the place you are covering. Ensure that there is a focus on understanding geographical similarities and differences. Study human and physical geography of both areas.</i></p>
<p><i>How does the weather change?</i> Weather and Seasons</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. I know the differences between the seasons. 2. I know the differences between types of weather experienced in the different seasons in the UK. 3. I can identify aspects of the weather and how it affects me and my local environment. 4. I can identify the types of weather we have in the United Kingdom and record the daily weather in our area. 5. I can evaluate weather data over a period of time. 6. I can explore how the weather affects different jobs. 	<p><i>How are the different continents special?</i> Continents and Oceans</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. I know where I am in the world. 2. I can locate the world's continents on a map. 3. I can locate the world's oceans on a map. 4. I can describe the main physical and human features of each continent. 5. I can explain key facts about Antarctica.- virtual fieldwork 6. I know some facts about each continent. 	<p><i>Why is our local area unique?</i> Local Area</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. I know the differences between rural and urban areas and know what type of settlement I live in. 2. I can locate our school using digimaps. 3. I know the features of our school grounds. 4. I know the features of our local area. 5. I can recognise symbols on a map of my local area. 6. I can make a map of my local area.

KS2 Units

How have people changed the UK? United Kingdom

1. *I can compare and contrast the different countries of the UK.*
2. *I can identify where I live in the UK and locate the counties UK's major cities.*
3. *I can identify physical characteristics of the UK.*
4. *I can understand how people have affected the United Kingdom's landscape.*
5. *I can describe and explain the sorts of industries in which people in the UK work.*
6. *I can understand the different types of energy sources used in the United Kingdom.*

Should we live near Volcanoes and Earthquake zones?

Volcanoes and Earthquakes

1. *I can label the structure of the earth.*
2. *I know what happens at the boundaries between the Earth's plates and locate plates on a map.*
3. *I can describe and explain the key features of a volcano.*
4. *I can locate a range of famous volcanoes.*
5. *I know the effects of a specific volcanic eruption.*
6. *I can evaluate the advantages and disadvantages of living near a volcano.*
7. *I can locate where famous earthquakes have occurred.*
8. *I can identify the effects of earthquakes on land and people.*
9. *I can describe and explain what kind of help people need after an earthquake.*
10. *I know how volcanoes and earthquakes are linked.*

**A longer unit, to adapt as necessary*

What makes Rainforests special? Rainforest

1. *I can recognise what a rainforest is and locate the world's rainforests on a map.*
2. *I can recognise the different layers of life in a rainforest.*
3. *I can recognise the features that make up a rainforest.*
4. *I can describe the key characteristics of the Congo.*
5. *I can describe and explain the impact of the deforestation of the rainforests.*
6. *I can explain the importance of the Amazon Rainforest.*

How does Climate vary and are we affecting it?

Climate

1. *I can identify the different lines of latitude and explain how latitude is linked to climate.*
2. *I can locate different climate zones and explore the differences between the Northern and Southern Hemispheres.*
3. *I can compare temperature and tropical climates.*
4. *I can explore weather patterns within a climate zone.*
5. *I can compare the climates of two differing climate zones and identify the characteristics of each climate zone.*
6. *I know what summer is like in Antarctica and how people can adapt to it- virtual fieldwork lesson.*

	<p><i>What is important about my local area?</i> <i>Geographical Local Study</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <i>I know how my local area and region fits into the wider world.</i> 2. <i>I can identify and locate the main features of my region.</i> 3. <i>I know how my region meets people's needs.</i> 4. <i>I can gather evidence through fieldwork.</i> 5. <i>I can create a needs map of my village.</i> 6. <i>To map similarities and differences between our own locality and another locality. – digimaps unit.</i> 	<p><i>What are mountains like?</i> <i>Mountains</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <i>I can describe what a mountain is and locate the world's 'Seven Summits' on a map.</i> 2. <i>I can describe the key features of mountains and how they are formed.</i> 3. <i>I can describe the climate of mountains and explore mountain life.</i> 4. <i>I can explore and locate the UK's highest mountains.</i> 5. <i>I can recognise the importance of the Himalayas for people living in the region.</i> 6. <i>I know the landscape and main features near Base Camp, Mount Everest – virtual fieldwork lesson.</i> 	<p><i>Why is the Amazon important?</i> <i>South American: The Amazon</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <i>I can locate The Amazon on a map and consider the significance of its location.</i> 2. <i>I know how to use digimaps to investigate the Amazon Basin (The Americas digimap unit).</i> 3. <i>I can describe the importance of the Amazon Basin and Rainforest.</i> 4. <i>I can understand some of the threats to The Amazon and why they matter.</i> 5. <i>I can understand some of the main human and physical features of Manaus.</i> 6. <i>I can compare the Amazon Basin with South-East Brazil and my local area.</i> <p><i>*Jan 2025 Amazon adventure virtual field work lesson.</i></p>	<p><i>Where is Europe and what is it like?</i> <i>European Region</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <i>I can locate Europe and investigate key information about its principle countries.</i> 2. <i>I can explore tourism in the Mediterranean region.</i> 3. <i>I can understand some of the factors affecting migration into Europe through Greece.</i> 4. <i>I can investigate the landscape of Greece, its features and how it is used.</i> 5. <i>I can investigate some of the main features of Athens.</i> 6. <i>I can compare everyday life for a child in Athens with that in other places.</i>
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Rivers Why are there so many rivers?

- 1. I can describe the water cycle, explain what a river is and locate the world's longest rivers on a map.*
- 2. I can describe how rivers are used around the world.*
- 3. I can identify the stages and features of a (local) river and the way that land use changes from the source to the mouth. (Digimap unit to support) ** also RGS rivers unit*
- 4. I can recognise and explain how human activity affects rivers.*
- 5. I can recognise and explain how flooding affects communities.*
- 6. I can identify the key characteristics of one of the world's longest rivers.*

How and why do the physical and human features of Brazil affect people living there?

Rio and Southeast Brazil

- 1. I can locate South America on a map and explain what it is like.*
- 2. I can locate South American countries and capitals and compare the time difference between them and the UK.*
- 3. I can compare key facts about Brazil with facts about the UK.*
- 4. I can use photographs and information texts to imagine daily life in Rio de Janeiro.*
- 5. I can investigate trade links with southeast Brazil.*
- 6. I can identify and evaluate the advantages and disadvantages for Brazil of the 2016 Olympic Games. **

Where is North America and what makes it unique?

North America: The Rockies

- 1. I can locate North America on a world map, including through using latitude and longitude.*
- 2. I can locate the United States of America and explain its name.*
- 3. I can understand the human and physical geography of the Rockies.*
- 4. I can describe the volcanic eruptions of Mount St Helens and the impact they have had on the surrounding area. **
- 5. I can investigate and evaluate the key features of a US state.*
- 6. I can compare and contrast New York with my local area.*