



Geography Curriculum Overview CYCLE A KS2

Cycle A	Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Summer 1	Summer 2
Key Question	<i>What do the UK's cities, settlements and trade links reveal about how and why places change?</i>		<i>How does South America shape how people live and trade?</i>	
NC Reference	Types of settlements (cities, towns, villages) Land use patterns (residential, commercial, industrial) Economic activity, including trade links and distribution of resources How and why places change over time (growth, regeneration, decline) Compare UK cities and settlements Understand similarities and differences between regions Explore how places such as Manchester, London or Liverpool have changed over time due to trade and industry Develop understanding of major UK cities and their geographical significance Identify key trade links within the UK and globally Use maps (including digital maps) to locate cities and trade routes Analyse data on population, industry and transport links Interpret graphs, charts and maps showing change over time		Identify South America on a world map, including major countries, rivers and cities. Understand its position in relation to other continents and oceans. Recognise key physical features such as the Andes, Amazon Basin and major river systems. Types of settlements (urban areas vs rural/indigenous communities) Economic activity such as farming, mining, forestry and tourism Trade links and export of goods (e.g. coffee, cocoa, beef, soy, minerals) Distribution of resources and how this affects development Climate zones (rainforest, savannah, mountain, desert) Biomes such as the Amazon rainforest Rivers and mountain ranges shaping settlement and transport Natural resources influencing trade and industry Compare regions within South America and with the UK	



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		Understand how environmental conditions shape lifestyles differently across places Explore cultural diversity and how communities adapt to their environment Use maps, atlases and digital tools to locate countries and trade routes Interpret climate graphs, population data and resource distribution Analyse how physical geography affects human activity
Other NC links	History How settlements have changed over time (e.g. Industrial Revolution, growth of cities like Manchester and Liverpool) Impact of trade, industry and transport on urban development Continuity and change in local areas Mathematics Interpreting population data, charts and graphs Comparing statistics between cities and regions Using percentages and trends to show change over time English Reading and analysing information texts about cities and trade Writing explanations and reports about how places change Using geographical vocabulary to present findings Computing Using digital maps (e.g. GIS, Google Earth)	History Indigenous cultures and how they adapted to environments (e.g. Amazon, Andes) European colonisation and its impact on trade and settlement Historical trade routes and resource exploitation Mathematics Interpreting climate data, rainfall graphs and trade statistics Comparing import/export quantities Using ratio and proportion in data comparisons English Writing comparisons between regions (UK vs South America) Producing reports on environments, trade and lifestyles



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	Researching cities and trade routes online Presenting data using spreadsheets or graphs Science Environmental impact of urban growth (pollution, sustainability) Transport and energy use in cities Design & Technology Understanding how infrastructure (bridges, ports, transport systems) supports trade Linking to urban planning and functional design of settlements	Using subject-specific vocabulary in explanations Computing Using digital maps to explore South America's physical features Researching global trade links and supply chains Creating presentations or data visualisations Science Biomes and ecosystems (rainforest biodiversity, climate impact) Human impact on environments (deforestation, sustainability, climate change) Materials and natural resources used in trade Design & Technology Global food trade (coffee, chocolate, bananas) Sustainable sourcing of materials and products Understanding how products are designed and transported globally
SIAMS	Wisdom, Knowledge and Skills Pupils develop a deep understanding of how cities grow and change over time. They use data, maps and evidence to explain real-world geographical patterns. They apply reasoning to understand cause and effect in human geography.	Wisdom, Knowledge and Skills Pupils understand how physical geography (climate, rivers, mountains) shapes human life. They interpret evidence about environments, resources and trade. They develop global awareness and critical thinking. Hope and Aspiration



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	Hope and Aspiration Encourages pupils to think about how cities can improve and develop sustainably. Inspires curiosity about future careers in geography, planning, engineering and trade. Helps pupils see how change can create opportunity and improvement. Community and Living Well Together Explores how settlements support communities through housing, services and transport. Highlights how trade connects different places and people. Develops understanding of interdependence between regions. Dignity and Respect Promotes respect for different communities and ways of life across UK cities. Values diversity within and between settlements. Encourages appreciation of different lived experiences. Stewardship (Creation) Considers the environmental impact of urban growth and trade. Encourages thinking about sustainable development and responsible use of resources.	Encourages understanding of how communities adapt and thrive in challenging environments. Inspires curiosity about global cultures and future global citizenship. Highlights opportunities created through global trade and cooperation. Community and Living Well Together Explores how communities in South America live in different environments. Develops understanding of global interdependence through trade links. Encourages empathy for people living in diverse geographical contexts. Dignity and Respect Promotes respect for indigenous cultures and diverse ways of life. Values cultural, environmental and economic differences without judgement. Encourages appreciation of global diversity. Stewardship (Creation) Focuses on caring for environments such as the Amazon rainforest. Raises awareness of issues like deforestation, sustainability and climate change.
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		Encourages responsible thinking about global resource use. Overall SIAMS Message Across Both Enquiries
Map skills	● Use maps of the UK to locate major cities, towns and settlements. ● Identify patterns of population distribution using maps (urban vs rural areas). ● Use atlas maps and digital maps (e.g. Google Earth) to compare places. ● Interpret trade maps showing ports, transport routes and economic links. ● Use scale to understand distances between cities and trading partners. ● Read symbols and keys to identify land use (industrial, residential, commercial). ● Plot and label key UK trade routes and transport networks (roads, rail, ports).	● Locate South America, its countries and major cities using world maps and atlases. ● Identify key physical features such as the Amazon River, Andes Mountains and rainforests. ● Use climate maps and biome maps to understand environmental regions. ● Interpret resource and trade maps showing exports and global connections. ● Compare physical and political maps to understand how geography influences settlement. ● Use latitude and longitude (basic level) to locate places globally. ● Use scale and distance to compare South America with the UK. ● Analyse digital maps and satellite imagery to explore land use and environment.
Constructing maps	● Create simple sketch maps of the UK showing major cities and settlements. ● Plot and label key cities, ports and trade routes. ● Use appropriate symbols and a key to represent different land uses (industrial, residential, commercial).	● Create outline maps of South America and label countries, major cities and physical features. ● Add key physical features such as the Amazon River, Andes Mountains and rainforest regions.



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	● Add arrows to show trade flows between UK regions and other countries. ● Use colour coding to show patterns of settlement density or economic activity. ● Include title, compass direction and scale (where appropriate) in constructed maps. ● Build thematic maps showing how places have changed over time (e.g. industrial growth areas).	● Construct thematic maps showing climate zones, biomes or resource distribution. ● Use symbols and keys to show exports (e.g. coffee, cocoa, minerals). ● Draw trade route maps linking South America to the UK and other global partners. ● Use colour shading (choropleth-style maps) to show population density or climate variation. ● Include latitude lines or simple grid references to support location accuracy.
Physical	● Understand how physical features (rivers, coasts, relief) influenced where UK settlements developed. ● Explore how the physical landscape affects transport routes and trade (e.g. rivers used for trade, mountains as barriers). ● Recognise how natural resources (coal, iron, fertile land) supported the growth of cities during industrialisation. ● Investigate how weather and climate can impact settlement growth and economic activity. ● Understand how physical geography and human activity interact to shape change over time.	● Study major biomes, especially the Amazon rainforest, savannahs and mountains. ● Explore climate zones (tropical, temperate, highland climates). ● Investigate major physical features such as the Andes Mountains and Amazon River system. ● Understand how relief (mountains, valleys, rainforests) affects settlement and transport. ● Explore natural hazards such as flooding or deforestation impacts. ● Understand how climate and ecosystems influence agriculture, trade and lifestyle. ● Recognise how natural resources (timber, minerals, crops) shape economic activity and global trade.



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Human	● Study different types of settlements (cities, towns, villages) and how they function. ● Explore land use patterns (residential, industrial, commercial, recreational). ● Understand population distribution and urban growth in UK cities. ● Investigate economic activity, including industry, services and trade. ● Learn how transport and trade links (roads, railways, ports) connect places. ● Explore how cities change over time due to industry, migration and economic development. ● Understand how human decisions shape the landscape (urban development, regeneration)	● Explore types of settlements in South America (urban cities, rural communities, indigenous settlements). ● Study economic activity, including agriculture, mining, forestry and tourism. ● Understand global trade links, including exports such as coffee, cocoa, beef, soy and minerals. ● Investigate how population distribution is influenced by environment and resources. ● Explore levels of development and inequality between regions. ● Understand how people adapt their lifestyles to different environments. ● Study how globalisation connects South America to the UK and the wider world.
Geographic al enquiry	● Ask and investigate why cities grow and change over time. ● Use maps, data and case studies to explore settlement patterns. ● Develop questions about how trade influences city development. ● Compare different UK cities using evidence (population, land use, transport links).	● Ask questions about how physical geography affects lifestyles and trade. ● Use maps, atlases, climate graphs and data to investigate patterns. ● Explore how and why people live differently in different regions of South America. ● Investigate global trade links and supply chains using evidence.



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	● Draw conclusions about cause and effect in urban change. ● Use secondary sources (maps, graphs, texts, digital tools) to support findings. ● Present findings using written explanations, maps and diagrams.	● Compare regions using data, images and geographical sources. ● Draw conclusions about the relationship between environment, resources and human activity. ● Communicate findings using maps, written explanations and presentations.
Direction and navigation	● Use cardinal directions (N, S, E, W) to describe the location of UK cities. ● Use compass directions to explain movement between cities and trade routes. ● Follow and describe routes on maps (e.g. rail, road and sea trade links). ● Use locational language such as near, far, north of, south of, adjacent to. ● Interpret simple route maps showing transport and trade connections. ● Describe journeys between settlements using directional language. ● Use maps to understand how goods move between ports, cities and regions.	● Locate South America using world maps and compass directions from the UK. ● Use latitude and longitude (basic awareness) to describe global position. ● Use cardinal and intercardinal directions to describe movement within South America. ● Follow and describe trade routes between South America and other continents. ● Use directional language to describe features (e.g. Andes Mountains run north–south). ● Interpret physical and political maps using direction to compare regions. ● Plan and describe routes across large-scale maps, including rivers and transport corridors.
Fieldwork	● Conduct local area studies to observe settlement types and land use.	● Use virtual fieldwork (videos, Google Earth, satellite images) to explore South American environments.



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	● Use tally charts and surveys to record types of buildings and services in the local area. ● Carry out traffic or land-use counts to investigate how the area functions. ● Use maps and simple sketch maps to record features of the local environment. ● Compare different parts of a city (e.g. residential vs commercial areas). ● Take photographs and annotated observations to record evidence of change. ● Present findings using graphs, tables and labelled maps.	● Observe and record features of different biomes (rainforest, mountains, rivers). ● Analyse climate data and environmental patterns from secondary sources. ● Compare local fieldwork data with South American case studies. ● Create fieldwork-style sketches and annotated diagrams of physical features. ● Investigate human impact on environments (e.g. deforestation in the Amazon) using evidence. ● Record findings using tables, maps, and digital tools.
Data and presentation	● Use population data to compare UK cities and settlement sizes. ● Interpret tables, bar charts and graphs showing urban growth and change. ● Analyse trade data (imports and exports) to show connections between places. ● Present findings using simple graphs and charts (hand-drawn or digital).	● Interpret climate graphs (temperature and rainfall) for different regions. ● Use export/import data to show global trade connections. ● Compare population data and settlement distribution across South America. ● Present findings using tables, bar charts and pictograms.



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	● Create thematic maps to show land use, population density or transport links. ● Summarise findings in written reports or presentations using geographical vocabulary. ● Use digital tools (spreadsheets, slides, mapping software) to present data.		● Create choropleth-style maps or colour-coded diagrams to show patterns. ● Use case study summaries to present research on regions or biomes. ● Communicate findings through presentations, posters or digital slides.
Significant places	● Study major UK cities such as London, Manchester, Birmingham, Liverpool and Leeds. ● Explore port cities (e.g. Liverpool, Southampton) and their role in trade. ● Investigate industrial cities shaped by the Industrial Revolution (e.g. Manchester). ● Understand how capital cities and economic hubs influence national change. ● Compare urban, coastal and rural settlements and their significance. ● Recognise how certain places became significant due to transport, industry and trade routes.		● Identify and locate globally and nationally significant places ● Understand why places are important in human and physical geography ● Recognise how significance is linked to trade, industry, environment and population ● Compare local, national and global places ● Understand how significance can change over time
Vocabulary	● settlement ● region ● environment	● survey ● fieldwork ● import	Talk like a geographer:



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<i>‘Talk like a geographer’</i>	● landscape ● physical geography ● human geography ● climate ● Biome ● ecosystem ● natural resource ● population ● economy ● development ● migration	● export ● trade route ● supply chain ● globalisation ● Interdependence ● atlas ● compass ● grid reference ● settlement ● industry ● trade	● “The location of this place is...” ● “This region is significant because...” ● “A pattern I can see is...” ● “The physical features of this area are...” ● “The climate affects how people live because...” ● “This settlement has developed because...” ● “Trade links connect these places by...” ● “On the map, this is located...” ● “The symbol shows...” ● “The data shows a trend that...” ● “My evidence suggests...” ● “This country exports...” ● “Trade routes connect...” ● “The location of this place is significant because...” ● “A pattern I can identify is...” ● “This environment affects how people live by...” ● “There is a clear link between...” ● “This place has changed over time due to...” ● “The data suggests that...” ● “This region is important because...”
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