



Geography

The EYFS framework is structured very differently to the national curriculum as it is organised across seven areas of learning rather than subject areas. The aim of this document is to help subject leaders to understand how the skills taught across EYFS feed into national curriculum subjects.

This document demonstrates which statements from the 2020 Development Matters are prerequisite skills for geography within the national curriculum. The table below outlines the most relevant statements taken from the Early Learning Goals in the EYFS statutory framework and the Development Matters age ranges for Three and Four-Year-Olds and Reception to match the programme of study for geography.


The most relevant statements for geography are taken from the following areas of learning:

- Mathematics
- Understanding the World

Geography			
Three and Four-Year-Olds	Mathematics		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understand position through words alone. For example, “The bag is under the table,” – with no pointing. • Describe a familiar route. • Discuss routes and locations, using words like ‘in front of’ and ‘behind’.
	Understanding the World		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use all their senses in hands-on exploration of natural materials. • Begin to understand the need to respect and care for the natural environment and all living things. • Know that there are different countries in the world and talk about the differences they have experienced or seen in photos.
Reception	Understanding the World		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Draw information from a simple map. • Recognise some similarities and differences between life in this country and life in other countries. • Explore the natural world around them. • Recognise some environments that are different to the one in which they live.
ELG	Understanding the World	People, Cultures and Communities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Describe their immediate environment using knowledge from observation, discussion, stories, non-fiction texts and maps. • Explain some similarities and differences between life in this country and life in other countries, drawing on knowledge from stories, non-fiction texts and (when



EYFS and Whole School links to the National Curriculum at SSPP

			appropriate) maps.
		The Natural World	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Know some similarities and differences between the natural world around them and contrasting environments, drawing on their experiences and what has been read in class. • Understand some important processes and changes in the natural world around them, including the seasons.

What this might look like in our school:

A mixture of adult-led and practical learning sessions (continuous provision), intentional conversations and vocabulary drops.

- Positional language
- Describing where their home is in comparison to school, or a familiar route
- Sensory play/exploration such as taste test, natural objects, dancing to music
- Talk about different countries, where they have been on holiday, look at photographs, food tasting
- Discuss and identify some physical features of the world such as land, sea, mountains etc
- Draw information on a simple map
- Read maps in role play
- Read and recognise street signs in the small world
- Celebrate and value cultural events and experiences such as Diwali, Chinese New Year
- Recognise seasonal changes
- Recognise different environments such as school/home, local/national
- Explore the natural environment through rich experiences outdoors or Forest School
- Directional language
- Daily weather discussions and appropriate clothing
- Environmental walks such as seasonal change
- Exploring geographical stories such as Handa's Surprise, Mama Panya's Pancakes
- Creating different environments in play with small world, construction and craft

