

## Unit Title: What's so great about the USA?

Y4  
Summer 2

### End Point - The aim of this unit is for pupils to:

- Know the key human and physical features of the cities of New York and Washington DC in North America and make comparisons to Middlesbrough
- Know that the USA is made of many different states across a number of climate and time zones

### End of unit assessment task:

Children will create an information booklet about New York

### Links:

Text – A Walk in New York by Salvatore Rubbino

Grandmother's Dreamcatcher by Becky Ray McCain

Geography – Children will begin to understand the movement of people to create settlements

Geography – Know that countries can have many natural resources that are desirable (Y3A1 Y4A1)

History – Children will know that Native Americans owned large areas of land and that this taken from them by the US government and they were moved to reservations

### Prior Learning:

- Know the four countries of the UK and their capital cities and the surrounding seas
- Know, name and locate the continents and oceans of the world
- Know the 4 compass points and revise 8 compass points
- Name and locate Middlesbrough on a map
- Know that humans create settlements and that this can be in a different country
- Recognise similarities and difference between where they live and other countries
- Know that different parts of the world have different climates





### Key Aspects of the Unit:



Map and atlas work/Fieldwork and investigation



Location

	<b>Physical Features:</b> Understand that physical features are natural features in an environment. Understand that physical features can include: beach, cliff, coast, forest, hill, mountain, sea, ocean, river, soil, valley, vegetation, season and weather and volcanoes.
	<b>Human Features:</b> Understand that human features are features in an environment that have been made by people. Understand that human features can include: city, town, village, factory, farm, house, office, port, harbour and shop.
	<b>Physical Processes:</b> Impact of nature on the earth e.g. erosion, plate tectonics, water cycle.
	<b>Human Processes</b> understand the processes that humans have developed across the globe including travel trade and economics.

## Key Knowledge:

- Know the USA is made up of 50 different states
- Know USA includes Alaska and Hawaii which are not physically connected to the USA mainland
- Know the capital city is Washington DC
- Know there are many different climate zones in the USA (compare New York, Anchorage, Las Vegas to Middlesbrough)
- Revisit the world's continents and oceans with a focus on Europe and North America
- Revisit the equator, north/south hemispheres/Tropics of Cancer and Capricorn /Arctic and Antarctic Circle
- Revisit longitude and latitude
- Introduce the Prime Meridian and World time zones (show New York and San Francisco for example) and compare to the UK
- Know the key human features of New York and Washington DC
- Look at the key similarities and differences between New York, Washington DC with Middlesbrough (eg population and climate)
- To revisit and use 4-figure grid references
- To revisit and use the 8 compass points

## Geographical Skills:

### Mapping:

- Use large and medium scale OS maps
- Internet map sites
- Use an atlas with more confidence to identify places with different features
- Begin to use 8 compass points;
- Begin to use 4 figure grid references to locate features on a map.
- Recognise and use some Ordnance Survey symbols

**Fieldwork:**

- Begin to use the eight points of a compass to follow and describe routes and identify locations

**Vocabulary**

atlas	A book of maps
city	A large town
climate	The general weather conditions that are typical
compass points	Any of the main points of a compass: north, south, east, west, north-east etc
continent	A very large area of land that consists of many countries, such as Europe
country	An area of land that is controlled by its own government
desert	A large area of land, usually in a hot region, where there is almost no water, rain, trees or plants (vegetation)
earthquake	A shaking of the ground caused by movement of the Earth's crust
equator	An imaginary line around the middle of the Earth at an equal distance from the North Pole and the South Pole
landmark	A building or feature which is easily recognised
landscape	Everything you can see when you look across an area of land including hills, trees, buildings, rivers and plants
map	A drawing of a particular area such as a city, country or continent
migration	Movement from one place to another in order to settle there
ocean	A huge body of salty water
population	All the people who live in a country or area
seas	A large body of salty water
settlement	A settlement is where people have come to live and have built their homes
topographical	The physical features of an area of land, for example its hills, valleys and rivers
tourist	A person who is visiting a place for pleasure and interest, especially when they are on holiday
trade	The activity of buying, selling or exchanging goods and services
urban	Belonging to, or relating to, a town or city
weather	The condition of the atmosphere in one area at a particular time, for example, if it is hot, raining or cold.
highway	American term for large road or motorway