

Mont Blanc et l'alpes

Overview and rationale:

By the time our children get to the end of Y5, they will have learnt about towns, cities, coasts, rainforests and all sorts of biomes, but in this topic, our children take a closer look at mountain ranges. They'll be aware of the Andes in South America but taking a look at the Alps will enable them to learn about a different way of living (and holidaying!) and provide them with an opportunity to look at key physical and human characteristics of the places where people settle at higher altitudes! They'll take a deeper look at climate and weather patterns and how these are affected by the topography of the range. It also gives them the chance to look at a wider region and see the vastness of the Alpines and how although its highest point, Mont Blanc, may be in France, the range spans eight European countries (but is still dwarfed by the Himalayas, the largest mountain range in the world!). Finally, they'll get a chance for some more landscape painting.



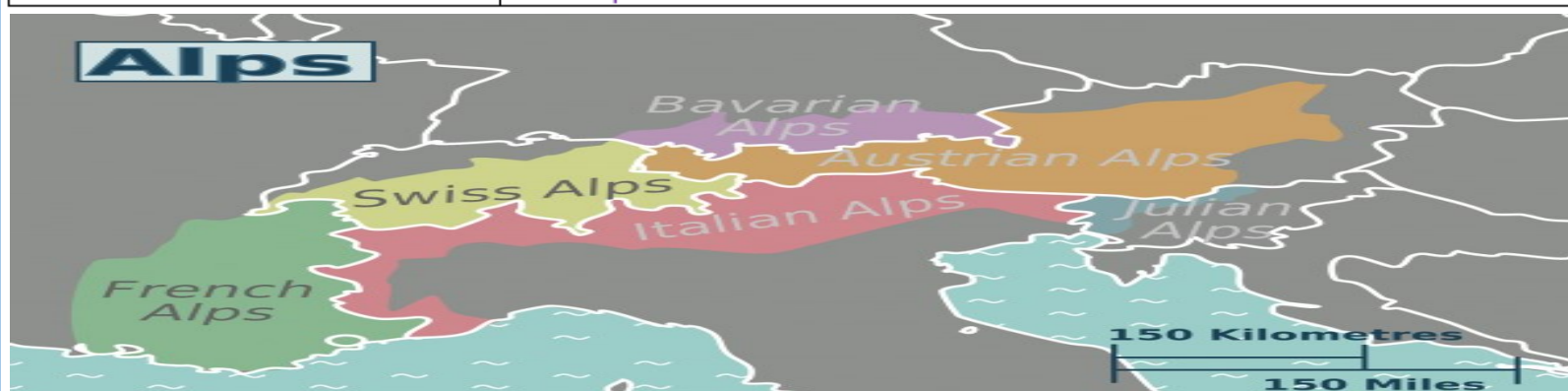
GEOGRAPHY LEARNING STATEMENTS

Locational and place knowledge	I know some of the world's countries, focusing on North and South America and concentrating on environmental regions, key physical or human characteristics, countries, and major cities.
	I can understand geographical similarities and differences through the study of human and physical geography of a region of the UK and a region within South America. (I also draw on my knowledge of a region in Europe).
	I can explain how aspects have changed over time.
Use of basic geographical vocabulary	I introduce precise geographical words when describing geographical places, features and processes.
Using globes, maps and plans	I can locate the world's countries, using maps to focus on Europe and mountainous terrain.
	I can interpret a range of sources of geographical information, including maps, globes, aerial photographs and Geographical Information Systems (GIS).
Human and physical: enquiry skills and communication	I know location of places of global significance, their defining physical and human characteristics and how they relate to one another.
	I can understand key aspects of physical geography (e.g. climate zones, biomes and vegetation belts).
	I can give a few reasons for the impact of geographical influences and effects on people, places or themes studied.
Map work skills	I can use the 8 compass points.
	I can select a map for a specific purpose.

GEOGRAPHICAL VOCABULARY AND CONCEPTS

Human Geography	settlement, urban, rural, economy, trade, tourism, service industry, resort
Physical Geography	landscape, hills and mountains, climate, weather, biomes, climate zones, climate change, global warming, natural resources, snow, ice
Place and locational vocabulary	Alps, Mont Blanc, Central Europe, France, Italy, Switzerland, Germany, Austria, Monaco, Slovenia, Liechtenstein
World Map-based vocabulary	population, capital cities, city/country/continent, atlas/map/globe, equator, hemisphere, longitude, latitude, time difference, Greenwich Meantime
Geographical concepts and tier 2 vocabulary	Place: changed, developed Space: weather, climate, biomes, vegetation Scale: local, regional, national, continental, global, oceanic, relationships, patterns, connections, impact Environment (physical and human processes: topography, changes over time, settlement Interconnections: significance, connections, links, interdependent, ecological, economic, trade, social Environmental impact and sustainability: interaction – human and natural, responsible, natural resources, modified, damage, Earth, globalisation, future Cultural awareness, diversity: lives, communities, cultural interests, similarities and differences, environmental resources

'CORE' KNOWLEDGE	'ADDITIONAL' KNOWLEDGE
<p>1) I know that the Alps is a mountain range that covers eight countries across Europe.</p>	<p>a) I can locate the Alps on a map and see that they are within France, Italy, Switzerland, Germany, Austria, Monaco, Slovenia and Liechtenstein.</p> <p>b) I know that the Alps covers 190 700 km².</p> <p>c) I know that the highest point is over 4800m. The highest point in England is Scafell Pike in the Lake District, Cumbria at 978m.</p> <p>d) I know that this is dwarfed by the Himalayas – the biggest mountain range in the world, in Asia, which is 595,000 km². Its highest point is Mount Everest at over 8,800m!</p> <p>e) I know how Paris is connected to the world and how I can get there!</p>
<p>2) I know that the weather and climate of the Alps and other mountain ranges is affected by the mountain ranges themselves!</p>	<p>a) I know that the temperature on mountains becomes colder the higher the altitude gets.</p> <p>b) I know that mountain weather conditions can change dramatically from one hour to the next. For example, in just a few minutes a thunder storm can roll in when the sky was perfectly clear, and in just a few hours the temperatures can drop from extremely hot temperatures to temperatures that are below freezing.</p> <p>c) I know that the climate on a mountain varies depending on what altitude (how high) you are up a mountain. At the foothills (near the bottom) there may be a tropical climate, whilst the peaks (the very top of mountains) may be covered in ice. The highest parts are often bare rock and snow.</p> <p>d) I know that you can often see snow on the top of mountains all year round, because the temperature at the top of mountains is lower than at the bottom. The higher the place is above sea level the colder it will be. Some mountains reach higher than the clouds. At this altitude the extreme cold and high winds cause blizzards</p> <p>e) I know that mountains can affect the climate of nearby lands. In some areas, mountains block rain, so that one side of a mountain range may be rainy and the other side may be a desert!</p> <p>f) I know that mountains make it possible for snow to be on the Equator!</p>
<p>3) I know how the Alps' physical landscape has changed over the years because of humans and because of global warming.</p>	<p>a) I know that the Alps is famous for its snow and ski resorts and being a tourist destination...it has over 1000 resorts which include hotels, bars, cafes, restaurants, shops and everything you'd expect on a winter holiday!</p> <p>b) I know that since 1850, glaciers in the Alps have lost between 30 and 40% of their surface area and half of their volume, with a further 10 to 20% of their volume having disappeared since 1980. Studies have predicted that 52% of Switzerland's small glaciers will be gone within the next 25 years.</p> <p>c) I know that tourist destinations and in particular ski resorts will close down - people will lose jobs and it will really affect the economy – because of global warming and the snow and ice melting.</p> <p>d) I know that people are trying to keep the resorts open – they have tried artificial snow canons and even trying to blow up part of the Alps!</p>



<p>Enrichment activities</p>	<p>French/ Bastille Day</p>
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