Background Knowledge

“What is my local area like?

A fieldwork investigation of my local area’s human and physical geography.

“I can think of few better ways to help young people become more knowledgeable, engaged with and perhaps respectful of their local environments and communities than to get them studying their local area - from its historical geography to the current social, environmental and economic processes shaping the places they live.” Dr Rita Gardner, Director, Royal Geographical Society.

What I already know

**Year 3**

I can locate North and South America on a map.  
I can use atlases and globes to locate and name European countries and I can name some European capital cities.  
I can use fieldwork to observe, measure, record and present the human and physical features in the local area using sketch maps.  
I have used atlases, globes, OS and aerial maps.  
**Year 4**Identify the positions of latitude, longitude, Equator, Northern and Southern Hemisphere, the Tropics of Cancer and Capricorn, Artic and Antartic Circle.  
I can identify human and physical characteristics, key topographical features (including hills, mountains, coasts and rivers). I can sort features of the UK and Brazil into human or physical characteristics.

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| National Curriculum Objectives/Key Skills | Lesson progression |
| **Geographical skills and fieldwork**  Use maps, atlases, globes and digital / computer mapping to locate and describe features studied. Use eight points of a compass, four ...figure grid references, symbols and key (including the use of OS maps) to build their knowledge of the UK and the wider world.  Use fieldwork to observe, measure, record and present the human and physical features in the local area using a range of methods, including sketch maps, plans and graphs, and digital technologies | 1. Key geographical questions and prior knowledge - what do pupils already know about their local area? such as; name, location, types of land use, green spaces, landmarks, transport, changes (past, recent , future), similarities and differences to other localities. 2. Map the local area and plan your investigation. Use maps, OS, aerial, Google to identify places and features in their local area. 3. Record data in the field in a variety of ways:   annotate maps with information field sketches of different scenes take photographs of different locations collect the views of people such as local residents, shopkeepers, complete tally charts to record different features e.g types of housing, land use, shops.   1. Present your results; choose from; create a land-use map, build a model of the village, draw now and then maps. Write a tourist guide, plan local routes, plan and publish a geographical walk including key points of interest and land-marks. |

Developing - I can identify, with support, human and physical features of the area and use the correct vocabulary. I can use geographical knowledge when describing directions eg north south east and west. I can find out information from a key and from map symbols.  
I can, with support, record my findings in a variety of ways, such as drawings, models, and graphs and then talk about my findings using geographical knowledge and vocabulary.

Secure - I can talk about the features of my local area. I can recognise that buildings have different uses and the land around them is used for different things such as housing, recreation, commerce etc.  
I can explore changes in the geography of my local area. I can identify, with support, human and physical features of the area and use the correct vocabulary. I can use geographical knowledge when describing directions eg north south east and west, use a scale to measure the length of a route . I can record my findings in a variety of ways, such as drawings, models, and graphs and then talk about my findings using geographical knowledge and vocabulary.

Mastery - I can talk about the features of my local area. I can recognise that buildings have different uses and the land around them is used for different things such as housing, recreation, commerce etc.  
I can explore changes in the geography of my local area. I can identify, with support, human and physical features of the area and use the correct vocabulary. I can use geographical knowledge when describing directions e.g. north south east and west, use a scale to measure the length of a route and use four figure coordinates to identify the location of features. I can find out information from a key and from map symbols.

I can record my findings in a variety of ways, such as drawings, models, and graphs and then talk about my findings using geographical knowledge and vocabulary.

Assessment Questions/Outcome

1.Can you name some of the physical and human features of your area?  
2. How is the land used in Cambo/Scots Gap?  
3. Can you plan and carry out an investigation into your local area?  
4. Can you record your findings in a variety of ways and then discuss what you have done?  
5. Can you use the 4 / 8 points on a compass?  
6. Can you use 4 figure coordinates to find a location

* Function - the main activities or purpose of a settlement eg residential, industrial, commercial or recreational  
  Housing types - such as terraced, bungalow, semi-detached,detached, flats or bungalow Land use - the way in which land is used by people.
* Service industry - such as work in retail, administration, education, healthcare or tourism  
  Suburb - the residential and commercial development at the edge of a city
* Rural - relating to the countryside  
  Urban - relating to town or city Urbanisation - increase in the percentage of people living in cities.