

Granard Geography Unit Summary

Year	Name of Unit	Unit Description
1	Our School	The Our School unit teaches about the world, starting with pupils' immediate environment and building on the firm foundations from the Early Years Foundation Stage. Children explore their school environment using first-hand observation and experience to enhance their awareness along with essential map skills and fieldwork.
	Our Local Area	Our Local Area teaches children about their locality beyond the school gate, building on children's knowledge and understanding of their school environment from Unit 1 and ensuring clear progression in learning. Children explore their local area using first hand observation to enhance their locational awareness along with developing essential map and fieldwork skills.
	Our Country	The Our Country unit teaches about the countries of the UK, developing learning beyond children's immediate environment and own locality. Children explore the UK by looking at individual countries, capital cities, human and physical features along with comparing and contrasting the capital cities of London and Brasilia in detail.
2	Magical Mapping	Magical Mapping develops key map skills through a range of engaging geographical skill based activities. Children explore a range of maps at a local, national and global level, developing their understanding of how to navigate around an atlas to find key countries, continents, oceans and seas along with devising their own maps and routes. They learn how to 'view from above' looking at aerial photographs to spot human and physical features, understand simple map symbols, compass directions and develop key geographical vocabulary throughout.
	What a Wonderful World	The What a Wonderful World unit teaches the location of countries, continents and oceans of the world in relation to the position of the United Kingdom and London. Children develop global awareness by looking in detail at the position of the seven continents and five oceans of the world, understanding that the world is spherical and creating their own journeys across the world. Children continue to build on their map skills developed in Year 1 using atlases, world maps and globes more widely, along with using aerial photographs to recognise human and physical features including landmarks.
	Let's go to China!	This unit teaches children about the geography of China through focusing on the main human and physical features of the country, extending children's knowledge of the world. Children learn about the geographical similarities and differences between China and the United Kingdom. They continue to build on their map skills using atlases, world maps and globes more widely, along with using webcams, online mapping programmes and interpreting a range of information.
3	Land Use	This unit on land use provides children with the chance to take a careful look at the places around them, and begin to look for patterns in land use. They will become cartographers, making maps of the local area, and agricultural surveyors by considering where different types of farming activities occur within the UK.
	Extreme Earth	This Extreme Earth unit teaches children about the destructive powers of nature, from volcanoes and earthquakes to tsunamis and tornadoes. Through discussion and practical tasks, children learn about how and why these natural phenomena occur, and the ways in which they affect people and the environment.
	Rainforests	In Rainforests, children take a closer look at the mysteries of tropical rainforests. From the layers of the forest and its animal inhabitants, to the unique climate found in the tropics. They compare a British forest with the Amazon rainforest, and begin to explore some of the conservation issues surrounding the destruction of rainforest habitats.
4	Somewhere to Settle	In the Somewhere to Settle unit, children head back in time to find out how the towns and cities of the UK first developed. They learn about the needs and requirements early settlers had when choosing a place to build a home. They will look at place names around the UK to see how the Anglo-Saxons, Romans and Vikings all left their mark. Through use of digital and paper maps, children investigate land use in different sized settlements and the ways in which settlements are linked together. At the end of the unit, children draw together all their learning about settlements to design their own new settlement
	The UK	In the UK, children look at the geography of the UK - from the physical features of mountains, rivers and seas to the man-made administrative regions and counties. They find out how the UK has changed over time, looking at how London grew and how the population of the UK as a whole has changed throughout the course of history.

	All Around the World	This unit allows children to take a closer look at where the countries of the world are located, and some of the ways geographers describe locations. Children will learn to locate and describe places using longitude and latitude, and find out about some of the important lines that delineate specific areas of the Earth - the Equator, the Hemispheres, the Poles and the Tropics. Finally, by looking more closely at the lines of longitude, children develop an understanding of time zones.
5	Marvellous Maps	In Marvellous Maps, children further explore the range of maps available to geographers and develop their understanding of the key features of maps. They study a range of maps and atlases, including digital maps, and compare their features. They learn to use the eight compass points to give directions and give grid references to locate places on a map. By comparing maps of the same place, children learn about the way that places have changed over time.
	Raging Rivers	In this unit, children find out more about why rivers are so important to the towns and villages that have developed on their banks. By looking at the features of rivers, and the natural and human ways that rivers change over time, children explore the life stories of rivers. Children learn the names and locations of the major rivers of the UK and the world.
	Magnificent Mountains	In Magnificent Mountains, children learn about the major mountains of the world and the UK. They find out the different ways in which mountains have been formed, and how different features of mountain ranges have been shaped over time. Children consider what the weather is like in a mountainous environment and evaluate the impact that tourism has on a mountainous region.
6	Enough for Everyone	In Enough for Everyone, children think about the needs of a settlement, and the needs of the planet as a whole. They find out where resources such as power and food come from, and look at ways in which natural resources can be conserved. After discussing the idea of a carbon footprint, children consider how their actions impact on others around the world, and about the changes that they could make to try to ensure that natural resources are shared so there is enough for everyone.
	Trade & Economics	In this unit, children find out how goods and services are traded around the world. They explore the UK's trade links today and in the past, finding out about goods imported and exported and the methods of transport used. Through a more detailed look at one of the UK's trade partners, the children learn about the benefits of trading internationally, as well as the risks to this area. They also learn about fair trade and why it is important in a global market.
	The Amazing Americas	In this unit about the Amazing Americas, children find out about the continents of North and South America, and the countries that form them. They also look in more detail at some of the contrasting regions of the Americas, finding out about the landscape, climate and locations of each area. There is the opportunity to carry out a detailed fieldwork study of our local area to help them to identify the similarities and differences between a region of the Americas and where they live. Children develop their map and atlas skills and practise reading and writing coordinates. They learn about the ancient and new wonders of the world, specifically those of the Americas, and they research a natural wonder of the Americas and create their own presentations to teach others what they learn.