

Willerby Carr Lane Primary School - Geography

Topic: North America

Year: Year 4

Strand: Place knowledge/ Human and Physical Geography

What should I already know?

- I live in Willerby which is a suburb of Hull in the East Yorkshire.
- East Yorkshire is in England, which is a country. England, which is in the United Kingdom, is in the continent of Europe.
- What a biome is and some of the features of the main biomes e.g. desert, tundra, grassland, forest
- The names and locations of the 7 continents and five oceans.







What will I know by the end of the unit?

Can you identify where north America is on a world map?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Where North America is on a world map • The major countries that comprise North America, including: Greenland, Canada, USA, Mexico and Caribbean Islands
Can you identify where the following states and areas are on a map of the USA?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New York • Florida • The Mississippi Basin • California
Can you compare some of the key human and physical features of: New York, Florida, The Mississippi Basin and California	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Notable physical features • Notable human features

Vocabulary

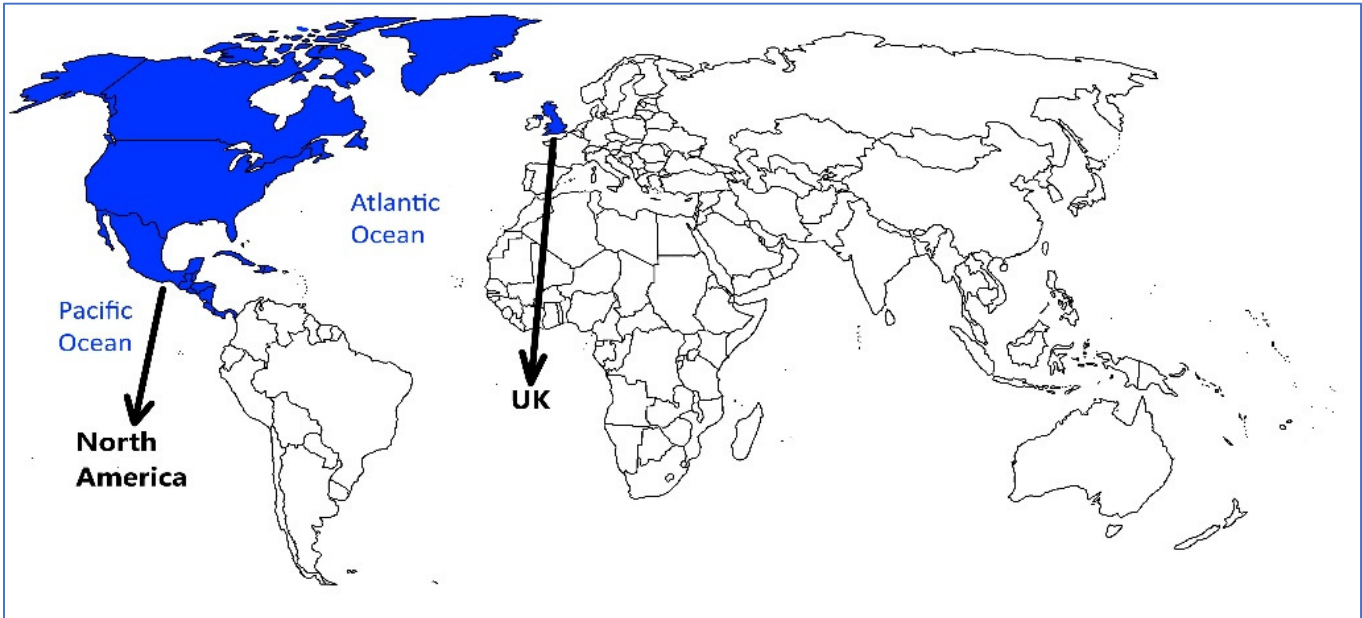
biome	a natural area of vegetation and animals
city	a large town. Hull and London are cities.
climate	the general weather conditions that are typical of it coastal an area of land close to the sea.
compass points	any of the main points of a compass: north, south, east, west, north-east, north-west, south-east, south-west
continent	a very large area of land that consists of many countries. Europe is a continent.
country	an area of land that is controlled by its own government.
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.
desert	a large area of land, usually in a hot region, where there is almost no water, rain, trees, or plants (vegetation)
farm	an area of land used to produce crops or to breed animals and livestock.
harbour	a sheltered port so that boats can be left there safely
human features	features of land that have been impacted by human activity
hurricane	a storm with a violent wind, in particular a tropical cyclone in the Caribbean
key or cay	a small, low-elevation, sandy island on the surface of a coral reef
landscape	everything you can see when you look across an area of land, including hills, rivers, buildings, trees, and plants.
mountain	a very high area of land with steep sides
peninsula	a piece of land almost surrounded by water or projecting out into a body of water
physical features	natural features of land
port	a harbour area where ships loads and unload goods or passengers
prairie	a large open area of grassland, especially in North America
reef	a ridge of jagged rock, coral, or sand just above or below the surface of the sea
river	a large, natural stream of fresh water that flows into the sea or a lake.
tectonic	relating to the structure of the Earth's surface or crust.
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.
transport	take (people or goods) from one place to another by means of a vehicle, aircraft, or ship
vegetation	plants, trees or flowers
watershed	the area of high ground from which water flows down to a river

Features of America

	Human features	Physical features
New York	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> New York City is located in New York State. New York City (NYC) is the most densely populated city in the United States with over 8 million people.  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As many as 800 languages are spoken in New York. The city is the main gateway for immigration to the United States. New York City is a major world centre for finance (Wall Street area) and media. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Situated on one of the world's largest natural harbours at the mouth of the Hudson River New York City is built on the three islands of Long Island, Manhattan, and Staten Island
Florida	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Florida is a major tourism destination with over 100-million visitors in a year and nearly 1.4 million people employed in the tourism industry Popular tourist destinations include beach towns (e.g. Miami), amusement parks (e.g. Disney World, Seaworld) and Florida State Parks 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Florida is one of the largest states east of the Mississippi River Florida occupies a peninsula between the Gulf of Mexico and the Atlantic Ocean The American alligator, American crocodile, American flamingo, Roseate spoonbill, Florida panther, bottlenose dolphin, and manatee can be found in Everglades National Park The Florida Reef is the only living coral barrier reef in the continental United States The climate is sub-tropical in the north and tropical in the south
The Mississippi Basin	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Mississippi River serves as a vital transportation artery and communications link. Steamboats were widely used in the 19th and early 20th centuries to ship agricultural and industrial goods Since the 20th century, the Mississippi River has experienced major pollution and environmental problems 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Mississippi River is the second-longest river on the North American continent at over 2000miles long With its many tributaries, the Mississippi's watershed drains parts of 32 U.S. states and two Canadian provinces between the Rocky mountains and Appalachian mountains The river either borders or passes through 10 states The Mississippi River empties into the Gulf of Mexico about 100 miles downstream from New Orleans
California	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There are many cities in California - famous ones include Los Angeles and San Francisco.   <ul style="list-style-type: none"> There are many places of interest in California, including the Golden Gate Bridge and the Hollywood sign. This means that there are lots of tourists. The biggest trades in California are technology, farming and entertainment. California has nearly 40 million people living there. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sierra Nevada mountain range  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mojave Desert  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> California lies on the edge of a tectonic plate - earthquakes occur there. The climate varies depending on where in the state you are. Large parts of California have dry, windy and often hot weather conditions from spring through late autumn that can produce moderate to devastating wildfires

Geographical Skills and Fieldwork

- Use of maps, atlases and globes to locate continents and North America
- 8 compass points to compare the location of different states
- Online map work to look at different regions/States and characteristics
- Plan a road trip across America from East coast – New York down South then across Rockies to West coast California
- Investigation of changes following different weather phenomena e.g. earthquake/hurricane/floods
- Investigate the Mississippi river basin



California



Mississippi Basin



Florida