

St Ives Infant & Nursery School - Geography Statement

"The study of geography is about more than just memorizing places on a map. It's about understanding the complexity of our world" Barack Obama

Intent

Our aim for the Geography curriculum is to ensure that all children are inspired to be curious and fascinated about the world and its people. Our Children are encouraged to develop a greater understanding and knowledge of the world, from their local everyday experience to the global picture, as well as their place in it. They will be given the knowledge they need to learn about diverse places, people, resources and the environment. They will be equipped with the vocabulary that they need to become geographers and ask questions about our world. Our curriculum is designed to develop knowledge, understanding and skills that are progressive from EYFS to Year 2. Our children will use the outdoor environment to develop their geographical skills and fieldwork. We want our children to feel a sense of place, belonging and pride in their local community and Cornwall as a whole and to appreciate we are both unique and connected to the wider world. We also aim to provide our children with the skills, knowledge and vocabulary to pose and answer questions confidently, clearly and accurately.

Implementation

To ensure that high quality geography is taking place throughout the whole school we implement a curriculum which is progressive from EYFS through to Year 2. Our curriculum is designed to ensure breadth, balance and coherence. Through carefully considered units our children are given the wide contextual knowledge needed to locate and place new learning and make meaningful connections. Geography lessons are planned through half-termly topics with a focus on knowledge, understanding and skills. We often plan sequences which combine history and geography to help children make links between concepts. Lessons have a strong focus on vocabulary which ensures that all children are able to talk about geography using the appropriate language. The use of vocabulary is progressive from EYFS to Year 2. Children will start their learning with their own locality before expanding their knowledge of the wider world. The subject leaders work closely alongside teachers to ensure that knowledge, understanding and skills within geography lessons are progressive through the school. Children will use resources to support their learning, for example, atlases, text books and maps. Key information that we expect children to know by the end of a topic will be included in their termly knowledge organiser. Our robust foundation subject monitoring system, includes planning scrutiny, book looks, subject data analysis, subject coverage checks, lesson observations and pupil conferencing will enable the curriculum leaders to check coverage and progression.

Impact

Our children will excellent locational knowledge and knowledge of geographical processes and human and physical features. They will be able to articulate their learning clearly supported by accurate facts and precise vocabulary. They will know more and remember more and will be prepared for the next step of their learning journey. They will appreciate the interconnections between people and places and between history and geography and will understand that their own impact on their locality and the wider world. Our children will be able to make informed choices about how they live and be responsible global citizens, understanding how they can take action to improve and protect their world. They will have a clear sense of who they are within their local, regional, national and global communities and will celebrate both their differences and similarities within them. Our children will be confident in asking questions and have the necessary to answer them.