

# The United Kingdom

## Geography - Year 4

### Knowledge organiser

**Teaching focus:** Name and locate counties and cities of the United Kingdom, geographical regions and their identifying human and physical characteristics, key topographical features (including hills, mountains, coasts and rivers), and land-use patterns; and understand how some of these aspects have changed over time  
**Learning Lens:** Place and Location  
**Class:** Year 4

### Previous Knowledge

Pearls of Stroud  
 Local study

### Project Hook or 'Wow' memory

Making a famous culinary dish (lesson 3)

### Learning Steps

### Key Knowledge (answers)

**Where in the world is the United Kingdom?**

The UK is an island nation in Western Europe just off the coast of France. The United Kingdom is composed of: England, Scotland, Wales & Northern Ireland. Britain usually refers to the United Kingdom, a sovereign state comprising the island of Great Britain, the north-eastern part of the island of Ireland and many smaller islands.

**What are the key topographical features of the UK?**

England consists of mostly lowland terrain. The upland areas include the Lake District, the Pennines, North York Moors, Exmoor and Dartmoor. Scotland is the most mountainous country in the UK. Wales is mostly mountainous, though south Wales is less mountainous than north and mid Wales. Northern Ireland consists of mostly hilly landscape. The climate of the UK is generally temperate, although significant local variation occurs, particularly as a result of altitude and distance from the coast. In general the south of the country is warmer than the north, and the west wetter than the east.

**What are the main counties and regions of the UK (in relation to agriculture)?**

Regions: Scotland, Northern Ireland, Wales, North East, North West Yorkshire and the Humber West Midlands, East Midlands, South West, South East, East of England, Greater London  
 Counties: (see Map attached)  
 Link counties to famous culinary dishes e.g. Cornish pasties etc.

**Where are the UK cities and how have they changed over time? (Football cities)**

UK city growth has resulted from: The Industrial Revolution (late 18<sup>th</sup> century) as people migrated from rural areas to work in factories, the growth of the railway network, specialisation of industry e.g. brass in Birmingham, since 1950: decentralization of retailing/entertainment owing to increased car ownership and city centre congestion. By the 1930s, there were a million cars on the road in Britain. The development of motor transport changed the way people lived and worked and had an equally big impact upon the railways. Football teams were given nicknames dependent on local trades e.g. Sheffield United was nicknamed 'The Blades' from one of the most famous trades of the town – steelmaking.

**Where are the UK cities and how have they changed over time? (Birmingham and Blackpool)**

Blackpool— seaside/ tourism/ services  
 Birmingham' - industry/ transport/ business

**What makes Britain great? Focus on: London**

E.g. the human and physical characteristics of London and how has this changed over time. Britain is great due to: UK public institutions; democratic processes, role of rule of law in safeguarding citizens, tolerance of other faiths and freedom to choose/speak.

### The key skills we want pupils to use during this topic:

Use 4- and 6-figure grid references, symbols and key (including the use of Ordnance Survey maps) to build their knowledge of the United Kingdom

Use aerial photographs and topological mapping to investigate key physical and human features

Use digital data sources, archive materials and simple fieldwork methodologies

### Key vocabulary

**Tourism**

to travel for pleasure or business

**Topographical**

relating to the arrangement or accurate representation of the physical features of an area (including hills, mountains, coasts and rivers)

**Climate**

the long-term average of weather

**Arable**

land used or suitable for growing crops

**County / Region**

County—The counties of the United Kingdom are divisions of the United Kingdom. Region—an area, having definable characteristics but not always fixed boundaries.

**Settlement**

human settlement, a community where people live

**Migration**

migration is the movement of people from one place to another with the intentions of settling, permanently or temporarily at a new location

### Final Written Outcome

Non Chronological Report presented in a leaflet form / fact file on the UK.

**Alternative Outcome:**

Children answer questions based on unit to create a simple fact file.

