



Geography Curriculum Statement

Intent

At Creswell Nursery and Infant School, Geography has a clear learning journey across the whole school. The pupils will learn about their local environment, community as well as the wider world. Geography is taught through topics that are inspiring and aim to develop children's natural curiosity. We want our children to develop skills in recognising, describing, explaining, comparing and evaluating human and physical geographical elements whilst expecting a high level of technical vocabulary being accurately used and applied throughout. We aim to produce independent and evaluative thinkers who have empathy for how others live to develop an awareness, respect and curiosity for different cultures and societies and the physical world around them. Children should have the opportunity to ask questions, make links, allowing them to make sense of the world around them. They will have opportunities to work collaboratively and through the use of field work, trips and other experiences. As an infant school in a small land locked village in Derbyshire we consider the particular context and prior experiences of our learners to develop the best possible curriculum for our children.

Implementation

At Creswell Nursery and Infant School the Geography curriculum is taught through a geographical enquiry approach including many cross-curricular links. The children will attempt to answer an overarching enquiry question through a combination of approaches starting with a hook to inspire the children. This will enable links to be developed that support the children's own developing, local, national and global knowledge.

This approach encourages the children to become more independent learners, taking responsibility for their own learning. The children are encouraged to ask questions and develop their own lines of enquiry, using research skills to facilitate this. We approach learning creatively and understand that there is more than one way to achieve an objective or accomplish a task, in order to make lessons more engaging and accessible to all.

We follow a skills progression in order to ensure curriculum coverage and in order to develop the children's key geographical skills and understanding throughout the school. High quality, up-to-date resources are used to support learning including globes, maps, photographs and atlases - as well as IT resources such as Google Earth in order to also develop children's digital literacy.

Children work towards completing a quality outcome at the end of topic to demonstrate their learning. This approach encourages collaborative learning and develops communication skills and resilience. Our school has a clear focus on the development of speech and language and allowing children to make links and embed the vocabulary. We use working walls, visual prompts and if needed, pre-teach some vocabulary to enable children to develop a deeper understanding and apply in different contexts. This also helps children to make links and develop their speaking and listening, as well as their writing, across the curriculum.

Impact

At Creswell Nursery and Infant School we can judge the success of our geography curriculum in the following ways:

- Pupil conferencing - children are happy, engaged, motivated to do well and suitably challenged.
- Learning walks (including those with governors and external visitors) - show evidence of our intent in action.
- Planning - allows children to gain knowledge and master skills and meets the needs of all learners. It follows a geographical enquiry approach starting with a hook to excite children. The cross curricular planning and experiences facilitate "sticky knowledge".
- Books - presentation is of a high standard and all children have the potential and encouragement to make at least expected progress from their various starting points
- Learning environment - is rich in technical and subject specific language to support children's learning which supports their independence.