

What does Geography look like in the Early Years Foundation Stage?



The EYFS Educational Programme for Understanding the World says: 'Understanding the World Understanding the world involves guiding children to make sense of their physical world and their community. The frequency and range of children's personal experiences increases their knowledge and sense of the world around them – from visiting parks, libraries and museums to meeting important members of society such as police officers, nurses and firefighters. In addition, listening to a broad selection of stories, non-fiction, rhymes and poems will foster their understanding of our culturally, socially, technologically and ecologically diverse world. As well as building important knowledge, this extends their familiarity with words that support understanding across domains. Enriching and widening children's vocabulary will support later reading comprehension.'

Specific examples of Geography at Marsh Green

Three and Four-Year-Olds

Mathematics: • Understand position through words alone. For example, "The bag is under the table," – with no pointing.

- Describe a familiar route. • Discuss routes and locations, using words like 'in front of' and 'behind'

Understanding the World: • Use all their senses in hands-on exploration of natural materials. • Begin to understand the need to respect and care for the natural environment and all living things. • Know that there are different countries in the world and talk about the differences they have experienced or seen in photos.

Reception Age

- Draw information from a simple map. • Recognise some similarities and differences between life in this country and life in other countries. • Explore the natural world around them. • Recognise some environments that are different to the one in which they live.

Early Learning Goal – Understanding the World

People, Culture and Communities

- Describe their immediate environment using knowledge from observation, discussion, stories, non-fiction texts and maps. • Explain some similarities and differences between life in this country and life in other countries, drawing on knowledge from stories, non-fiction texts and (when appropriate) maps.

The Natural World

- Know some similarities and differences between the natural world around them and contrasting environments, drawing on their experiences and what has been read in class. • Understand some important processes and changes in the natural world around them, including the seasons.

Autumn

Autumn and Winter

N: We're Going on a Bear Hunt – Positional Language

Local walk to the Post Box – focusing on directional language

Planting Bulbs

R: Changes in weather

Spring

Spring

N: Looking after the environment

R: The same but different – looking at different countries and how they are different.

Summer

Summer

N: Farmer Duck: Farm Animals and Habitats

Rumble in the Jungle: Comparing animals and habitats in another country

R: Conservative problems

Shark Finning