



London and the South East

Year 4

This unit continues our journey around the United Kingdom, building knowledge of the counties and cities of the UK, their geographical regions, human and physical characteristics and topographical features. Some of these include London, The River Thames, Canterbury and its cathedral, Brighton and its pier and the white cliffs of Dover. Children will use an atlas to identify key places and will look at regional proximities including the location of France across the English Channel from the south-eastern coast of England.

When studying London, children will learn about the Roman town of Londinium that was established by the Romans as a trading port. Building on their understanding of trade from Year 3, Western Europe, children will learn that the Romans positioned their town far enough inland along the Thames to be safe from Germanic raiders, but at a location where the water was still deep enough for ships to sail to transport exports and imports. Children will study Canterbury and its rich history which links to their understanding of the importance of the Cathedral in British History. (Linking to History- the Death of Thomas Beckett)

Children will learn about Brighton, the popular seaside town on the South East coast of England, and will learn how the city, including its famous pier, has changed over time. This unit introduces the important geographical and cultural feature, the White Cliffs of Dover and children will learn about the chalk rock that creates the white cliff faces, the erosion that reveals the chalk and also Dover's significance as a ferry port.

Children will build on knowledge taught in this unit as they continue to study regions of the UK in Year Five.