



Why is Africa a continent and what is significant about its history?

Year 3 Summer 1 Knowledge organiser

National Curriculum objectives: Pupils should be taught:

- To locate the world's countries, using maps to focus on Europe (incl. Russia) and N. and S. America, concentrating on their environmental regions, key physical and human characteristics
- To describe and understand key aspects of physical geography, including climate zones, biomes, vegetation belts,
- To describe key aspects of human geography, including types of settlement and land use, economic activity incl. trade links, and distribution of natural resources incl food, minerals and water.
- Use geographical skills and fieldwork.

Knowledge:

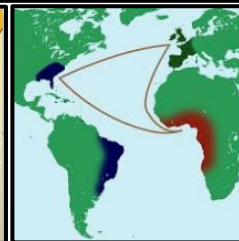
- Physical geography: identify climate zones, types of vegetation belts: desert/semi-desert, Savannah, deciduous woodland, tropical rainforest.
- Human geography: know types of settlements and land use - rural, some main cities, ports and densely populated areas.
- Locate the world's countries, using maps to focus on continent and countries within Africa - concentrating on their environmental regions, key physical and human characteristics, countries - landlocked and coastal, ports and major cities and surrounding oceans.
- Identify natural resources within some African countries and link to trade routes, imports and exports..
- Link map routes to historic slave trade route 'triangle'
- Identify the position and significance of latitude, longitude, Equator, Northern Hemisphere, Southern Hemisphere, (mention briefly the Tropics of Cancer and Capricorn)
- Consider the human geography relating to the impact of living in a rural area compared to a city or port.

Geographical skills and enquiry:

- Ask and respond to geographical questions and offer your own ideas
- Use letter/number coordinates to locate features or places on a map. Use maps with different scales to begin to match boundaries,
- Follow routes on different/large-scale maps - export/import routes or slave trade routes.
- Know why a key is needed and use symbols on a map/key.
- How does trade connect different countries and their populations?
- Discuss how global trade affects the lives of workers in less economically developed countries.

What should I already know?

- Some physical characteristics and key features in the wider world.
- Some key aspects of physical geography in the wider world e.g. mountains, oceans, continents
- Locations of oceans, continents
- Awareness of types of weather and seasons



Key vocabulary

Desert/Semi-Desert: a barren area of land where little precipitation occurs and consequently living conditions are hostile for plant and animal life.

Savannah: a mixed woodland grassland where the trees are so widely spaced that the canopy does not close. Open canopy allows sufficient light to reach the ground.

Deciduous Woodland: these areas extend across vast areas of tropical Africa, where the climate is too seasonal and dry to support evergreen forest.

Tropical Rainforests: Around 2 million km² of Africa is covered by rainforests. Home to vast numbers of species, and helping to provide food and medicines.

Continent: A large solid area of land. Earth has 7 continents.

Landlocked: A country surrounded by other countries without access to the sea.

Tropical Climate: A damp climate with monthly average temperatures of 18c or higher all year round.

Equator: An imaginary circle around the middle of Earth, dividing it into the N. and S. Hemispheres.

Congo Basin: large area of land drained by the Congo River - 2nd largest river basin in the world (Amazon 1st).

Northern Africa: area is effectively separated from the rest of Africa by the Sahara Desert, which is the largest hot desert in the world. Northern Africa is also home to the longest river in the world: The Nile.

Central Africa: Central African countries are on or around the equator. The Central African Republic (CAR) is a landlocked country with a mainly tropical climate and is one of the poorest countries in the world.

Eastern Africa: There are 18 countries in Eastern Africa including Tanzania. Tanzania is home to the highest peak in Africa: Mount Kilimanjaro, which is a dormant volcano.

Southern Africa: 5 countries in Southern Africa including South Africa. South Africa has a population of around 56 million people. Less than 10% of the S. African population is white; it is one of the richest countries in Africa.

Western Africa: There are 16 countries in Western Africa, one of these is Nigeria. Nigeria's landscape is very diverse. It is the largest exporter of oil in all of Africa.