



Characteristics of More Able Learner in Geography

More able learners in geography may display a selection of the following characteristics:

Characteristics of all Geographers

- Develop knowledge of where places are and what they are like.
- Develop an understanding of the ways in which places are interdependent and interconnected and how much human and physical environments are interrelated.
- Develop geographical knowledge and vocabulary.
- Apply questioning skills and use presentational techniques.
- Form conclusions and develop reasoned arguments to explain findings.
- Engage in fieldwork and use geographical skills and techniques.
- A passion for and commitment to the subject, and a sense of curiosity to find out about the world and the people who live there.
- Develop the ability to express opinions, rooted in knowledge and understanding about current and contemporary issues in society and the environment.

Characteristics of more able learners in Geography – age appropriate

Locational and place knowledge

- Have excellent locational knowledge and can locate many countries in the UK, Europe and North and South America (year group specific).
- Have an excellent knowledge of geographical and environmental regions and their key topographical features.
- Knowledge of human and physical geography (year group appropriate) is excellent.
- Able to confidently compare and contrast places based on their characteristics.
- Use and application of direction is accurate and precise based on compass directions including degrees.

Human and physical geography

- Describe key geographical processes and the connection between physical processes and human geography.
- Able to purposefully use geographical terms and vocabulary in the correct context with ease, both verbally and in writing.
- Show initiative in their investigation and research of patterns of human and/or physical features.
- Offer reason and explanation when comparing places, without instruction from the teacher.
- Can evaluate and critique work or ideas.
- Can synthesise lots of disparate pieces of information and bring them into a coherent shape.
- Naturally refer to their prior learning and make connections between geographical topics identifying similar themes.
- Able to confidently explain facts and theories to others. They can give full oral explanations and use their knowledge and skills to answer 'big questions' at the end of a unit of study.

Geographical skills and fieldwork

- Lead fieldwork Investigation in the local area/school grounds to answer a pertinent question of their choosing
- Choose appropriate methods to record findings from investigations.
- Draw and complete maps and diagrams accurately and in detail, with appropriate use of symbols/key, annotations and a scale.
- Accurately use grid references to describe locations of features on maps and identify grid reference positions.
- Interpret digital and physical maps and study of aerial images to support their investigation and answers to pertinent questions.

<u>General</u>

- Understand concepts clearly; can apply this understanding to new situations to make interpretations, develop hypotheses, reach conclusions and explore solution
- Understand geographical ideas and theories; apply them to real situations
- Communicate effectively using both the written and spoken word, in ways that are appropriate to task and audience
- Learn subject-specific vocabulary and use it accurately
- Reason, argue and think logically
- Able to manipulate abstract symbols and recognise patterns and sequences
- Use and apply mathematical principles and formulae to solve geographical tasks and problems
- Identify their own geographical questions and sequence investigations
- Understand, and able to explain, complex processes and interrelationships
- Enjoy using graphs, charts, maps, diagrams and other visual methods to present information
- Competent and confident in using the wide range of visual resources required#
- Well-considered opinions on issues such as the environment and life in different places
- Wide-ranging general knowledge about the world and topical issues#
- Able to transfer knowledge from one subject to another
- Creative and original in their thinking, frequently going beyond the obvious solutions

