

Exploring the countries of Western Europe

What are the main countries in Western Europe and what are their key features?

Topic : Western Europe

Year 3 Term Summer 1

1. Which countries make up Western Europe?

- Locate and name the countries in the United Kingdom.
- Name their capital cities and recognise their flags
- Name the seas that surround the United Kingdom
- Locate and name the countries of Germany, France and the Netherlands in Western Europe and develop an awareness of where they are – which countries they border.
- Find out about places and features of these places through both observation and using other information sources.



2. Why are the “Low Countries” called this?

- Investigate the physical geographical features of this region
- Learn about the culture and traditions of this region.
- Investigate why Rotterdam is an important port.
- Identify the key features and landmarks (physical and human) of these countries.
- Identify different types of settlements and where they are located, thinking why people may have chosen to settle here.
- How do the physical and climatic features compare with the UK?



3. What are the main physical and human features of France?

- Use a map to find out facts about the country.
- Compare different features of the landscape.
- Learn about the culture and traditions of this region.
- Highlight the major rivers of the Seine and Rhone and the features of these.
- Identify different types of settlements and where they are located, thinking why people may have chosen to settle here.
- How do the physical and climatic compare with the UK?



4. What are the main physical and human features of Germany?

- Locate Germany on a globe or atlas and name the capital cities and countries it borders.
- State some facts about Germany and name some of the major German cities.
- Highlight the major rivers, the Rhine and Danube.
- Use compass points to describe the position of places in relation to each other.
- How do the physical and climatic features compare with the UK?



5. What are the different places that people live in?

- Identify and explain the differences between rural, suburban and urban environments
- Name the 5 types of settlement we are exploring and explain what they are. (Hamlet, village, town, city, conurbation.)
- Use the terms “physical” and “human” to describe features.
- Identify different types of settlements and where they are located, thinking why people may have chosen to settle in these places.



Assessment Task

What are the main countries in Western Europe and what are their key features?

Locate and name the countries of France, Germany, the Netherlands and Great Britain on a map. Write facts about each of the three countries.



Geographical Skills

- name and locate different countries in the European continent (particularly Western Europe) and the key features and landmarks (physical and human) of these countries.
- identify different types of settlements, thinking why people may have chosen to settle in these places.
- name and identify key rivers using specific geographical vocabulary to describe them.
- use compass points (NSEW) when describing the position of places in relation to each other.
- find out about places and features through both observation and using other information sources.
- use a key on a map to identify certain features of areas.
- use the terms “physical” and “human” accurately to describe different features of a place.
- identify different types of settlements and where they are located, thinking why people may have chosen to settle in these places.