

GEOGRAPHY at Woolmore

"The study of geography is about more than just memorising places on a map. It's about understanding the complexity of our world, appreciating the diversity of cultures that exist across continents. And in the end, it's about using all that knowledge to help bridge divides and bring people together." - **Barack Obama**



1. Y6 children writing about the human impact on our environment
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3. Sketching human features on a section of the River Thames
4. Y2 exploring continents
5. Y5 climate zones learning
6. Using the map wall

Our Key Concepts for teaching and learning in Geography

1. **Investigate places** - understanding the geographical location of places and their physical and human features
2. **Investigate patterns** - understanding the relationships between the physical features of places and the human activity within them, and how the world's natural resources are used and transported.
3. **Communicate geographically** – using geographical representations, vocabulary and techniques.

At Woolmore becoming a Geographer involves developing

- Knowledge of where places are and what they are like.
- Understanding of the ways in which places are interdependent and interconnected and how much human and physical environments are interrelated.
- A good grounding of geographical knowledge and vocabulary.
- Questioning skills in order to understand the subject and the world better.

- The ability to reach conclusions with reasons to explain thinking.
- Fieldwork and other geographical skills and techniques.
- A passion for and commitment to the subject, and a real sense of curiosity to find out about the world and the people who live there.
- Balanced opinions rooted in good knowledge and an understanding of current and contemporary issues in society and the environment.

What makes Geography at Woolmore special?

1. Our amazing map wall

This series of maps includes a world map, a map of the United Kingdom, a map of London (with relevant London Landmarks for our children labelled), a map of Tower Hamlets, a map of our school's immediate area (again with relevant landmarks identified) and a London tube map.



The map wall allows staff to 'Bring the World to Woolmore' by always helping children understand their place in the world relevant to the geographical areas they are learning about and make connections. It is a great source of inspiration for children, teachers and visitors who often take a moment to find/notice something of interest.

2. Our great location

Our school sits in the shadow of Canary Wharf, in the heart of London's East End. Our local area is a geographer's dream: rich in history, its evolving geographic footprint means physical features are constantly evolving and changing. Fieldwork visits in our local area offer lots to observe from the nearby Thames River and the O2 to the many physical features that can be found and mapped within a short walk of the school. We make the most of all that London has to offer – visiting a wide range of places of interest, helping children understand where they are going and plotting their route. We contrast our visits in the City to places offering our children opportunities to explore and understand different physical/natural environments such as the seaside and the countryside.



Y3 trip on the Thames Clipper to spot key London landmarks.

Y6 Orienteering in the countryside at Gorsefield Residential Centre.

Our X feed has many photos of trips within London and beyond @Woolmore Tweets

3. Our links to current affairs

We help children make sense of the world around them by seeking out links to events and current affairs and exploring the associated geography. For example, during our Chinese New Year learning and celebrations, we explore which continent China is part of, where Beijing is located, and which Borough London's Chinatown is part of.

Curriculum teams work together to find opportunities to promote geography, for example a Euros competition linking PE and Geography with children identifying countries, capitals, flags and sharing important facts about a range of countries.

Our curriculum is constantly evolving to help our children understand the interconnection between humans and their environment. From learning about the impact of single-use plastic in Y4, to the impact of climate change on the Polar Regions in Y6 children's understanding of the issues and possible solutions progresses throughout our Geography Curriculum and includes opportunities to address topical local, National and International news and events.

