

# African Adventure | Geography | Years 5 & 6 | Summer Term 2021-22

## National Curriculum – Geography

### Locational knowledge

- Locate the world's countries, using maps to focus on Europe (including the location of Russia) and North and South America, concentrating on their environmental regions, key physical and human characteristics, countries, and major cities.
- Identify the position and significance of latitude, longitude, Equator, Northern Hemisphere, Southern Hemisphere, the Tropics of Cancer and Capricorn, Arctic and Antarctic Circle, the Prime / Greenwich Meridian and time zones (including day and night).

### Human and physical geography

- Describe and understand key aspects of:
  - physical geography, including: climate zones, biomes and vegetation belts, rivers, mountains, volcanoes and earthquakes, and the water cycle.
  - human geography, including: types of settlement and land use, economic activity including trade links, and the distribution of natural resources including energy, food, minerals and water.

### Geographical skills and fieldwork

- Use maps, atlases, globes and digital / computer mapping to locate countries and describe features studied.

## Physical Features & Processes

### Sahara Desert

The largest hot desert in the world, blanketing much of the northern third of Africa.

### Sahel

The dry, semi-arid region between the Sahara Desert to the north and the grasslands and rainforest to the south.

### Savannah

Hot, dry grasslands covering the regions just north and south of the rainforests that lie along the equator. They cover almost half of Africa and have a large variety of wildlife.

### Tropical rainforest

Located near the equator, covers 1/5<sup>th</sup> of Africa and touches 37 countries. A hot and humid climate with a large variety of animals.

### Nile River

Longest river in the world, stretching 4150 miles (6650 km).

### Lake Victoria

Largest lake in Africa and second largest freshwater lake in the world. Named after Queen Victoria.

### Atlas Mountains

A mountain range in north Africa, separating the coastal regions from the Sahara Desert.

## Human Features & Processes

What affects where people live, work and trade?

The one thing that all African nations have in common is their reliance on the land's physical characteristics.

Where do people live?

Few people live in the Sahara Desert as it is considered one of the harshest places to live in the world. Those who do are called nomads; they move from place to place, usually travelling by camel, looking for food and water. People have tried to live in the Sahel but generations of overgrazing and desertification have cause soil erosion; vegetation is sparse. Farming is good in the Savannah (if there is good rainfall). Grasses and grains (e.g. wheat and oats) are grown.

What are Africa's rivers and lakes used for?

The Nile is an important waterway for transporting people and goods. It also provides irrigation for agriculture. Lake Victoria is vital in supporting the millions of people that live nearby. It provides a living for many fishermen and attracts millions of tourists each year.

## Vocabulary

**Continent:** any of the world's main continuous expanses of land (Europe, Asia, Africa, North and South America, Australia, Antarctica).

**Country:** a nation with its own government, occupying a particular territory.

**Political borders:** an imaginary line separating one political unit, such as a country or state, from another.

**Equator:** an imaginary line drawn on the Earth equidistant from the poles, dividing the planet into northern and southern hemispheres.

**Climatic zones:** divisions of the Earth's climates into general areas according to average temperatures and average rainfall.

**Desert:** a barren area with little or no rainfall.

**Biome:** a community of plants and animals that have common characteristics for the environment they exist in.

**Agriculture:** the practice of farming including growing crops and rearing animals to provide food, wool and other products.

## Location & Techniques

Africa is the world's second largest continent (11.7 million square miles / 30 million square kilometres).



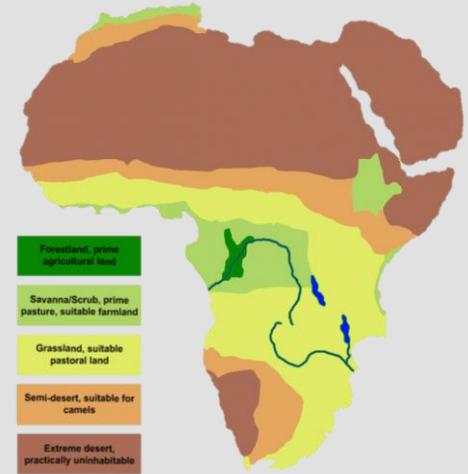
It spans both the northern and southern hemispheres.

Locate and label using atlas and online maps.

It is home to 54 countries, over 1000 different languages and 1.3 billion people (17% of the world's population live in Africa).



Africa can be divided into six main regions: Sahara; Sahel; Savannas; tropical rainforest; Atlas Mountains; and Kalahari Desert, each with their own biome.



## Key Learning: To understand the physical and human geography of Africa.

- 1 Where is the continent of Africa and what countries does it comprise?**  
 Recap definitions of continents and countries, with reference to Africa. Introduce term 'Political Border' in context of countries. Africa is the world's second largest continent (11.7 million square miles / 30 million square kilometres). It is home to 54 countries, over 1000 different languages and 1.3 billion people (17% of the world's population live in Africa). Use an atlas to locate and label African countries.
- 2 What is the climate of Africa? What are the key African biomes and where are they located?**  
 Recap climatic zones (polar, temperate and tropical) then locate (with reference to key lines of latitude: Equator, Tropic of Cancer, Tropic of Capricorn, Arctic Circle and Antarctic Circle). Recap definition of a biome. Explain why different parts of the world have different climates. Africa can be divided into six main regions: the Sahara; the Sahel; the Savannas; the tropical rainforest; the Atlas Mountains; and Kalahari Desert, each with their own biome. Locate and label key geographical regions and physical features of Africa.
- 3 How does the physical geography of Africa influence human processes and behaviour in those places?**  
 Recap the key geographical regions, biomes and physical features of Africa from previous lesson. Discuss how they may affect human interactions with the environment in each region / biome, including their respective human geography (e.g. settlement, farming, travel and tourism). Write a short paragraph to summarise learning.