



Geography: The four countries of the United Kingdom.

What you should already know:

Children know about similarities and differences in relation to places
They can talk about the features of their own immediate environment and how environments might vary from one another.

Key learning:

Year 1

I can name and locate the four countries of the UK and their capital cities.

Use basic geographical vocabulary to refer to key physical and human features.

On a map of the UK, I can name and locate the four countries and major features.

Key learning:

Year 2

I can name, locate and identify characteristics of the four countries and capital cities of the UK and surrounding seas.

I can compare geographical similarities and differences through studying the human and physical geography of an area of the UK.

Map of the UK



The **UK** is made up of the **island** of Great Britain and Northern Ireland. It is surrounded by the English Channel, the North Sea, the Irish Sea and the North Atlantic Ocean.

Key Vocabulary

town	A town is a place where people live and work. There may be shops, places of worship, leisure facilities and schools there. It is bigger than a village but smaller than a city.
countryside	Land that is not in towns or cities. Sometimes there are small settlements (like hamlets and villages) there. The countryside has lots of farmland and often has woodland.
pro	The positives of something.
con	The negatives of something.
country	An area of land with its own government, rules and borders.
UK	The United Kingdom. It is made up of four countries: England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland.
island	An area of land surrounded by water.

The Capital City of the UK

London is a very busy and built-up city with lots of important buildings.

There are lots of different ways of travelling around London. There are train stations, the London Underground (sometimes called the 'tube') and buses.

London has lots of famous **landmarks**. These include the London Eye, Big Ben, the Houses of Parliament, Tower Bridge and Westminster Abbey.

London hosted the Olympic Games in 2012 and it was an exciting time for sport in the **UK**.

While there are lots of buildings, London also has lots of green spaces in its parks, including Hyde Park and Regents Park.

The Queen lives in Buckingham Palace in London.

London has lots of tourists, who visit from other places in the **country** and the world.



England



Scotland



Wales



Northern
Ireland



Countries in the United Kingdom

England: England is the largest **country** in the **UK**. London is the **capital city**. Many parts of England are flat but there is also lots of rural **countryside** with rolling hills and valleys in the north.

Scotland: Scotland is a **country** in the north of the **UK**. Edinburgh is the **capital city**. Scotland has large mountains including Ben Nevis, which is the largest in the **UK**.

Northern Ireland: Northern Ireland is the smallest **country** in the **UK**. Belfast is the **capital city**. One of the most famous **landmarks** is Giant's Causeway (natural rock steps mostly hexagonal in shape).

Wales: Wales is a mountainous **country** in the west of the **UK**. Cardiff is the **capital city**. Wales has its own language (Welsh). Not everyone there speaks it though.

Key Vocabulary

capital city	A town or city where the government sits.
landmark	A feature of a landscape or place that is easily recognised. It could be something made by people (a human feature) or something that occurred naturally (a physical feature). Big Ben is a landmark in London.
population	How many people live in one particular place. This could be the population of a city, a town , a country or the whole world.