I am a Geographer

Intent: At Frome Vale Academy it is our intention that when children study geography they will consider themselves as practising the skills of the geographer. Children will have access to knowledge that develops their understanding of the manmade and natural world, including continents, countries, oceans, climates and cities and settlements. Children will be introduced to the knowledge and skills of the geographer and be given the opportunity to practise those skills using relevant equipment and resources. Investigations or activities planned must have a clear learning objective. The acquisition of subject specific vocabulary is essential for developing understanding and acquiring the voice of the geographer.

As the children progress through the school, resources and practical activities, including the use of compasses, globes, maps, keys will help solidify classroom learning. Children will be given the opportunity to use and create geographical resources of their own. Children will acquire the ability to compare and contrast geographical places and locations and to make reasoned and evidence based judgements about those differences. The curriculum aims to inform children about the world they inhabit so that they can make sense of what they see around them.

Implementation: The area of study should be introduced to the class as a question relating directly to the Geography National Curriculum requirements. The questions are progressive reflecting the children's different levels of ability and understanding as they progress through the Key Stages. Children are encouraged to supplement their topic learning with their choice of non-fiction reading texts and independent research. Teachers will take every opportunity to broaden knowledge by choosing topic related text for guided reading. Carefully chosen and well-planned DT projects can also be used to add a further dimension to children's engagement and knowledge development. Children will be given the opportunity to work collaboratively, sharing ideas and knowledge and supporting each other's learning journey. Practical activities will be planned in which children are given the opportunity to practise the skills learned in the classroom. Each topic will conclude with an independent piece of written work in which the child answers the geographical question posed at the outset and is based on all their learning around the topic.

Impact: Children at Frome Vale will be able to explain world and UK geography confidently and at an age appropriate level. They will be able to name and explain facts about the continents and countries of the world, by the end of KS2 they will be able to make comparisons and explain differences between geographical locations and explain the link between natural and manmade geography. Children will be also be able to make links between the globe, the climate and scientific explanations of the world. In addition, they will be able to answer questions by making links between areas of study and in some cases return to old learning to reappraise it with new ideas, thereby showing progression of ideas and concepts.