



Year 5 Geography

Knowledge Organiser: How is Scandinavia different to where we live?



Subject Specific Skills:

- Locate the world's countries, using maps to focus on Europe (including the location of the Scandinavian countries) concentrating on their environmental regions, key physical and human characteristics, countries, and major cities.
- Understand geographical similarities and differences through the study of human and physical geography of a region of the United Kingdom, a region in a European country.
- Describe and understand key aspects of physical geography, including: climate zones, biomes and vegetation belts, rivers, mountains, volcanoes and earthquakes.
- Describe and understand key aspects of 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.

Prior Learning

- Children will have used maps, atlases and globes to locate different places in the world.
- Children should be able to describe some of the key aspects of physical geography including rivers, mountains, volcanoes.

Key Knowledge:

Scandinavia

- Scandinavia is a region in northern Europe which is made up of three countries: Norway, Sweden and Denmark.
- Some people think that Iceland and Finland are part of Scandinavia because they are similar countries geographically and culturally, but this is not the case. Only Norway, Sweden and Denmark form Scandinavia. These five countries are, however, all **Nordic** countries, meaning they are from the north.
- As well as having very cold winters, they also have very short days during the winter and very long days during the summer. In the parts of Scandinavia that extend into the Arctic Circle, during some parts of winter the sun will never rise, giving total darkness twenty-four hours a day. In parts of summer, the sun never sets which means it is constantly daylight.

Norway

- Capital city: Oslo
- Population: 5.4 million
- Currency: Norwegian krone
- Norway has several distinctive physical features – glaciers, fjords, mountains and waterfalls. Fjords are usually surrounded by steep mountain sides and are long, narrow and deep.
- Galdhøpiggen in southern Norway is the tallest peak in Scandinavia. It has an elevation of 2,469 metres.
- Vinnufossen waterfall is 865 metres high and the tallest waterfall in Norway. It is the 6th tallest waterfall in the world.

Key Vocabulary

Capital city: City where the government of a country is based.

Climate: The usual or average weather conditions over a long period of time.

Continent: a large landmass usually made up of lots of countries.

Country: An area defined by its people, culture, language, geography and government.

Fjords: A fjord is a body of water that is formed when a glacier retreats and carves a U-shaped valley into the landscape.

Glacier: A glacier is formed over a long period of time when snow is compacted into sheets of ice.

Human geography: Anything in an area that is not naturally occurring and that has been shaped by people.

Landscapes: An area of land and everything you can see on it.

Latitude: Lines of latitude circle the Earth parallel to the Equator.

Longitude: Lines of longitude run between the North and South Pole.

Physical geography: Anything in an area that is naturally occurring.

Population: The number of people living in an area.

Precipitation: Water particles that fall from a cloud as rain, hail, sleet or snow.

Subarctic: This means that they have very long, cold winters and short, cool summers.

Tundra: These regions are very cold and dry and there is a permanent layer of frozen subsoil called permafrost.

Weather: The specific atmospheric conditions on a given day including temperature and rainfall.

Key Knowledge:

Sweden

Capital city: Stockholm

Population: 10.42 million

Currency: Swedish krona

The west of Sweden has some tall mountains and fjords, like Norway does. However, the rest of the country is mostly flat or slightly hilly. One of Sweden's significant physical features is Lake Vänern which is the third largest lake in Europe.



Denmark

Capital city: Copenhagen

Population: 5.9 million

Currency: Danish krone

Denmark has a very different physical landscape to Norway. Denmark is a low-lying country and has no tall mountains or hills. The highest point in Denmark is only 171 metres above sea level. Denmark has many rivers and fjords but because much of the land is very low, there is often a risk of flooding.

Norway



Sweden



Denmark



Northern Lights