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| **GEOGRAPHY – KNOWLEDGE PROGRESSION UPPER SCHOOL (Year 4,5,6)** |
| **Cycle 1** | **Cycle 2** | **Cycle 3** |
| **Volcanoes & Earthquakes*** There are 4 main layers of Earth – **inner core, outer core, mantle, crust.**
* Tectonic plates are on the Earth’s crust and when they move they can cause a volcano or an earthquake.
* The majority of volcanoes and earthquakes are located on tectonic plate boundaries.
* The ‘Ring of Fire’ is around the Pacific Ocean and is where there are many volcanoes and earthquakes.
* Volcanoes are openings in the Earth’s surface from which scorching hot magma, ash and gases escape.
* There are different types of volcanoes e.g.

**Active**: a volcano that has erupted recently **Dormant**: a volcano that has not erupted for a long time, but may erupt again **Extinct** – a volcano that has erupted thousands of years ago, and will probably never erupt again.* The magnitude of an earthquake can be measured using seismographs. They measure the size and intensity.
 | **Greater London*** The UK is split up into counties e.g. Berkshire/Hampshire
* A county consists of towns and villages e.g. Berkshire – Newbury, Reading, Thatcham
* A compass has 8 points: N, NE, E, SE, S, SW, W, NW
* Physical map – shows natural features of land e.g. mountains, rivers, lakes
* Political map – shows national boundaries, towns and cities.
* London is the capital city of England.
* The River Thames is the longest river in the south of England, and passes through London.
* When the Romans founded London, they chose a point on the River Thames because it was easy to build a bridge there. Plus the river allowed them to move supplies to and from Britain.
* In 1982 the Thames Barrier was built to prevent high tides flooding London.
* The River Thames provides trade, transport, tourism, fishing, leisure, renewable energy, water.
* Many famous landmarks in London e.g. Big Ben, Houses of Parliament, Tower Bridge.
 | **Rivers*** A river is a natural body of water that flows over land.
* The **source** of most rivers is on high ground or mountains.
* Small rivers are called streams, creeks, brooks.
* A **tributary** is a stream or smaller river that flows into another larger river.
* The wide part of the river near the sea is called an **estuary**. The **mouth** of the river is where the tide meets the river’s stream.
* A river can be divided into stages – upper, middle, lower course.
* **Meanders** are the bends created by the water as it finds its way downhill.
* The river transports and deposits soil and other materials along the path.
* Rivers are important – sources of water, transport, leisure, habitat, energy, farming.
* Local River – The River Kennet (tributary of the River Thames)
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| **European Country – Alps (mountains)*** The Alps are a large mountain range spread over Europe. They are spread over 8 countries – Alpine states e.g. France, Monaco, Italy, Switzerland, Liechtenstein, Austria, Germany, Slovenia
* The Alps are **fold mountains**. This means that they formed when two large **tectonic plates** slowly collided, pushing up the ground over tens of millions of years. This created some of the highest peaks in Europe. The highest mountain in the Alps is **Mont Blanc**.
* Many river sources are in the Alps. When snow and ice melt in the spring and summer, they supply water to the rivers and lakes at the foot of the mountains.
* Parts of a mountain:

Summit – top of the mountainSlope/face – sides of the mountainRidge – where the 2 faces meetValley – low lying area between the mountains* Tourism is the main industry of the alps e.g. skiing.
 | **Natural Resources*** Natural resources are materials or substances that are produced by the environment e.g. crops for food, oil for fuel, wind for electricity.
* Agricultural resources are natural resources related to farming e.g. crops, livestock
* Geological resources e.g. fossil fuels (gas, oil, coal)
* Renewable resources e.g. wind, sun & water won’t run out. They are better for the environment. Different types of renewable energy e.g. hydropower, solar, wind, geothermal.
* Fossil fuels are contributing to global warming due to releasing carbon dioxide gas. Fossil fuels can’t be replaced.
 | **Biomes – South America*** A biome is a natural area of plants and animals.
* The world is divided into lots of different biomes and they are all different depending on their climate.
* The major biomes are: desert, tundra, forest, grassland, aquatic, rainforest
* A large part of South America is covered in rainforests. Tropical rainforests are found near the equator - hot and wet. They have high biodiversity.
* The largest rainforest is the Amazon rainforest. It spans 8 countries in South America, including Brazil (60%), Peru and Colombia.
* Deforestation – financial gains for Brazilian economy e.g. agriculture. The rainforest absorbs carbon dioxide and slows down global warming.
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