

How can parents support their children with geography?

You can help your children to learn locational knowledge and about how the world works, including how people and cultures differ in terms of their values, perspectives and behaviour.

You can do this in many different ways:

- Looking at maps, atlases and globes together
- Reading stories set in other countries
- Playing games using maps and globes
- Exploring your local area - show them rivers, countryside, towns, museums and historical sites in your vicinity.
- Show them the compass points - go for a walk using a compass for directions

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Recommended books for Key Stage 1:

- **Look Inside Our World (Usborne)**
- **My Big World (Okido)**
- **The Usborne Sticker Picture Atlas of the World**
- **Usborne First Sticker Book - Cities of the World**
- **Children's Discovery Atlas (Anita Ganeri)**
- **Little Kids First Big Book of the World (National Geographic)**

Recommended books for Key Stage 2:

- **Geography - a children's encyclopedia (DK)**
- **You Rule! (Lonely Planet)**
- **Children Just Like Me (DK)**
- **This is How We Do It (Matt Lamothe)**
- **Amelia's Maze Adventure (Lonely Planet)**
- **If the World Were a Village (David J. Smith)**

Fun games you can play to help your children learn geography:

1. Spin the globe - spin a globe with your eyes closed and stop it with a finger. Can they name the place where their finger has landed?
2. Where is...? Stick a world map/map of the UK upon the wall and cut out the names of countries and cities. Can your child stick the name in the correct location?
3. Geography quiz - how many capital cities/countries in Europe/counties in the UK etc can they name in 1 minute?
4. Know where you live! Draw 6 circles from biggest to smallest (one inside of the other) with their home in the smallest circle in the middle. In the next circle, can they name the street they live in? Then the town, county, country and continent.
5. Coordinates game - give children coordinates and an atlas - can they find the place at that coordinate. You can make this game very detailed and localised by having them find a post office or church on an Ordnance Survey map.

Fun on-line games you can play to help your children learn geography:

1. **Seterra Geography** - children love this map game where they must click on the correct location of countries and cities.
2. **Geoguessr** - children use Google Maps to find themselves in a location anywhere in the world! They have a few minutes to use clues/landmarks to figure out and guess where they are.
3. **Ducksters Geography Games** - solve crossword puzzles, complete word searches and play Geography Hangman!
4. **Triviaplaza** - carry out geographical quizzes including languages, currencies and landmarks.
5. **Zoomtastic!** A zoomed in satellite image is given which slowly zooms out - you need to guess where it is in 10 seconds.
6. **Where on Google Earth is Carmen San Diego?** The goal is to track Carmen (an international thief and criminal mastermind) using clues to track her whereabouts.