



# Africa



**Year: Four**  
**Term: Summer**

## Prior knowledge for teachers

In this unit the children will continue building upon their knowledge of the continents and begin to study Africa. The children will be able to locate key countries and capital cities and identify and locate its main human and physical characteristics. Later on in the topic, they will be focusing on the water cycle and the River Nile and will retrieve information from the Year 4 science curriculum: water cycle. They will be studying the land use and settlements in this area and start to understand how the human and physical features in this area has affected these.

## Key vocabulary

- **Agriculture** - The cultivation of soil and management of the natural landscape in order to grow crops.
- **Capital city** - The city where the government of a country is located.
- **Catchment area** - The area from which rainfall flows into a river, lake, or reservoir.
- **Dam** - A barrier constructed to hold back water and raise its level, forming a reservoir used to generate electricity or as a water supply.
- **Delta** - A landform caused by rivers dropping sediment as it leaves the mouth.
- **Economy** - The state of a country or region in terms of the production and consumption of goods and services and the supply of money.
- **Flood** - An overflow of a large amount of water beyond its normal limits, especially over what is normally dry land.
- **Human features** - Human activity that has affected the earth's surface; e.g. bridges and buildings.
- **Sea** - A large area of salty water that is part of an ocean.
- **Land use** - The function of the land.
- **Mouth** - Where a river meets a sea, ocean or lake.
- **Nile** - The longest river in Africa.
- **Physical features** - Natural features of a location, e.g. a beach, a river
- **Settlement** - A place, typically one that has previously been uninhabited, where people establish a community.
- **Silt** - Fine sand, clay, or other material carried by running water and deposited as a sediment, especially in a channel or harbour.
- **Source** - Where a river begins or originates.
- **Water cycle** - The cycle of processes by which water circulates between the earth's oceans, atmosphere, and land, involving precipitation as rain and snow, drainage in streams and rivers, and return to the atmosphere by evaporation and transpiration.

## Year 4 – Africa

**Geography - Know that geography is the study of places and the relationships between people and their environments**

**Question – How has the land use and settlements along the River Nile changed over time?**

	Key geography knowledge	Key geography skills
Week 1 (Retrieval Science curriculum )	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Know that Africa is a continent – second largest.</b></li> <li>● Africa is the hottest continent in the world.</li> <li>● The equator passes through Africa.</li> <li>● Africa has many different regions, including the Sahara desert, grasslands (known as savannahs) and highlands – due to its size and climate zones.</li> <li>● Africa is surrounded by the Indian Ocean, Atlantic Ocean, Mediterranean Sea and the Red Sea.</li> </ul> <p><b>Water cycle – Know that:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Water from lakes and puddles, rivers and seas is evaporated by the sun’s heat, turning it into water vapour.</li> <li>● This water vapour rises, then cools down to form water droplets in clouds (condensation).</li> <li>● When the droplets get too heavy they fall back to the earth as rain, sleet, hail or snow (precipitation).</li> </ul>	<p><b><u>To locate places</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● I can locate Africa and some of its countries (including major cities and human and physical characteristics).</li> </ul> <p><b><u>To understand places and the geographical patterns and processes</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● I can describe and understand key aspects of physical geography: the water cycle.</li> <li>● I can describe and understand key aspects of human geography: settlement and land use.</li> <li>● I can describe <b>some</b> links between people and the environment.</li> </ul>
Week 2	<p><b>Africa’s countries and capital cities</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● The equator passes through six African countries.</li> <li>● The northern half of the continent is mainly desert.</li> <li>● The southern half is mostly made up of jungle, rainforest and plains.</li> <li>● There are 54 countries in Africa.</li> <li>● There are well over 1000 languages spoken in Africa.</li> </ul> <p>Locate following countries and capital cities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Egypt – Cairo</li> <li>● Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) - Kinshasa</li> <li>● Kenya - Nairobi.</li> <li>● South Africa - Cape Town, Bloemfontein and Pretoria . It is the only country in the world to have 3).</li> <li>● Madagascar ( 4th largest island in the world) - Antananarivo</li> </ul>	
Week 3	<p><b>Africa’s major characteristics</b></p> <p><b>Physical</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Mount Kilimanjaro:</b> Tanzania (highest mountain on the continent).</li> <li>● <b>The Sahara Desert:</b> (World’s largest hot dessert is in Africa).</li> <li>● <b>River Nile:</b></li> <li>● <b>Victoria Falls</b> – Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe, largest waterfall in Africa</li> <li>● <b>Serengeti National Park:</b> Serengeti, Tanzania</li> </ul> <p><b>Human</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Suez Canal</b></li> <li>● <b>Aswan High Dam</b></li> <li>● <b>Great Sphinx of Giza:</b> Giza, Egypt</li> <li>● <b>The Pyramids of Giza:</b> Giza, Egypt</li> </ul>	<p><b><u>To organise and communicate geographically</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● I can use age appropriate maps, atlases, globes and digital/computer mapping to locate countries and describe features studied.</li> <li>● I can use the eight points of a compass to communicate knowledge of the United Kingdom and the wider world.</li> </ul>
Week 4	<p><b>River Nile</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● The Nile is the longest river in the world – 6650km long.</li> <li>● Located in north- eastern Africa</li> <li>● The source of the River is in the rainforest of Rwanda.</li> <li>● The Nile flows through 11 countries: <a href="#">Tanzania</a>, Uganda, the Democratic Republic of the</li> </ul>	

	<p>Congo, Rwanda, Burundi, Ethiopia, <a href="#">Kenya</a>, Eritrea, South Sudan, Sudan and Egypt.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Know the Nile flows into the Mediterranean Sea. Where the river meets the sea is called the delta.</li> <li>● Know that the drainage basin for the River Nile is very large and covers a range of countries. This means that if large amounts of precipitation fall then the risk of flooding will be high.</li> <li>● The 3 main tributaries of the Nile River are the White Nile, the Blue Nile and the Atbara.</li> <li>● <b>Describe journey from source to mouth</b></li> <li>● <b>Know how the water cycle links to the journey of the River Nile.</b></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● I can express my own views by responding to questions about locations and accept others have different opinions.</li> </ul>
Week 5	<p><b>Nile Delta - Land use and settlements impact of flooding and how it might change over time.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Know Most of Egypt is a vast desert with almost no rainfall.</li> <li>● Know the soil of the Nile River delta between El Qâhira (Cairo) and the Mediterranean Sea is rich in nutrients, due to the large silt deposits the Nile leaves behind as it flows into the sea.</li> <li>● Know the banks of the Nile contain rich soil and due to annual flooding that deposits silt. The contrast between the Nile's lush green river banks and the barren desert through which it flows can be seen on satellite images. .</li> <li>● Know that this is one of the reasons Cairo, Egypt's capital located in the river's delta, became the country's largest city, as the Nile provided healthy land and a source for transport and trade.</li> <li>● Know that around 50 million people live within a few miles of the river and completely depend on its water. The river is home to many fish and provides a valuable source of food.</li> <li>● Know, much of Egypt's food has been cultivated in the Nile delta region. Ancient Egyptians developed irrigation methods to increase the amount of land they could use for crops and support a thriving population. Beans, cotton, wheat, and flax were important and abundant crops that could be easily stored and traded.</li> <li>● Know that the river used to flood annually causing devastating impact on lives and property.</li> </ul> <p><a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oE2YZZgZWdE">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oE2YZZgZWdE</a>  <a href="https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/clips/z3rwmp3">https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/clips/z3rwmp3</a></p>	

Week 6	<p><b>Impact of the Dam on the River Nile</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Aswan High Dam is a rock-fill dam located at the northern border between Egypt and Sudan.</li> <li>● Know the dam was completed in 1970.</li> <li>● Egyptians have relied on the annual flood seasons of the river both for drinking water and to irrigate farmlands for thousands of years.</li> <li>● Know that the Aswan Dam was built to increase the amount of hydroelectric power, regulate the flooding of the Nile and increase agricultural production.</li> <li>● Know the Aswan High Dam has brought a number of benefits to Egypt's economy. The annual flooding of the Nile can now be controlled. The dam holds the floodwaters, releasing them when needed to irrigate hundreds of thousands of acres of farmland. The dam also generates enormous amounts of electric power. In addition, the reservoir supports a fishing industry.</li> <li>● Know The Aswan High Dam has had negative side effects. In addition to displacing people and artefacts, it has made the land along the river less productive. Flooding once brought with it rich fertilizing silt, which enriched the soil. Much of the water and its silt is now confined in reservoirs and canals. The silt is no longer deposited by the Nile's rising waters on farmlands so the farmlands are not as fertile.</li> <li>● Know that the delta is now shrinking due to erosion along the Mediterranean Sea.</li> <li>● Know the routine annual flooding no longer occurs along parts of the Nile. These floods were necessary to flush and clean the water of human and agricultural waste. As a result, the water is becoming more polluted.</li> </ul>	
Curriculum links	<p><b>Science – Water Cycle</b>  <b>History – Ancient Egypt</b></p>	

