

Theme: Fieldwork, mapping and navigation

1. This unit builds upon the unit from Year 3 and 4 What makes a woodland? In this Year 6 unit, pupils explore how **physical and human geography** shape the school grounds. Pupils build maps by adding features each lesson and explaining how **geography** influences story events and **understand what fieldwork is and why geographers use it**. Children use a **compass** to **identify north and orient a simple field sketch map of the school field and identify suitable tent-pitching locations**

Key Questions:

What physical features can we see on our school field?

How do these features affect how we use the space?

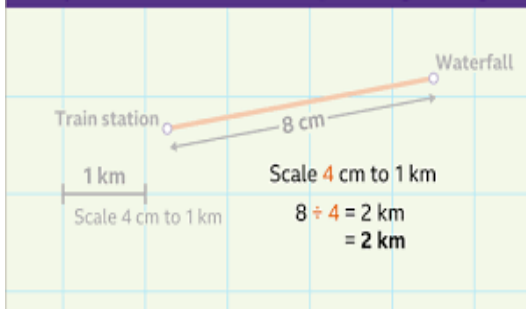
How do we make a field sketch accurate and useful?

Why do geographers carry out fieldwork?

What features should a map include (e.g. symbols, labels, key)?

Key Vocabulary	Definitions
physical features	- natural parts of the landscape (mountains, rivers, moors, cliffs, marshes).
human features	- man-made parts of the landscape (castles, villages, roads, bridges).
land use -	how people use different areas of land (farming, royal land, wild land).
settlement	- a place where people live.
scale	- the ratio showing distance on a map (e.g., 1 cm = 1 km)
compass directions	- north, south, east, west (and NE, NW, SE, SW).
route	- the path taken to travel from one place to another
territory	- land controlled by a group or leader.
environmental change	- when the natural world changes (storms, forests growing, volcanic activity).
cause and effect	- explaining why something happens and what it leads to

Example 2 – The number of units representing 1 km is given



Scale helps us to work out the approximate distance on a map.

Why is Geography important?

- Geography helps us understand how people use, adapt, and change places.
- Every place has a unique combination of physical and human features.
- Maps are a way of communicating information clearly and accurately.
- Location influences what is possible, safe, or practical (e.g. where to build or camp).
- Fieldwork helps geographers observe, measure, and make decisions based on real evidence.

How do we orient a map so it matches the real world?

Map Skills for Year 6

- Use **4- and 6-figure grid references** to locate features.
- Interpret symbols using the **key**.
- Follow a simple route using a map and compass.
- Understand scale (e.g., 1 cm = 1 km).

