Linked learning theme: North America – Adapt to survive

Autumn 1, Year 6

Geography – Earth's physical geography

Prior knowledge

Earlier in KS2, children have located topographical features such as the Alps in Europe and the Andes mountains in South America.

Core knowledge

- Tectonic plates are the individual parts of the Earth's crust that move on the mantle.
- The Earth is made up of a series of layers.
- There are three major types of plate boundaries: convergent, divergent and transform.
- Volcanoes are found on plate boundaries.
- Movement in the earth caused by the movement of tectonic plates or displacement of the earth's crust during a volcanic eruption causes earthquakes.
- Tectonic movements create significant topographical features, such as mountains.

Key skills

- Use atlases to identify the different locations of volcanoes.
- Use 4- and 6-figure grid references to locate Pompeii in relation to Mount Vesuvius.
- Identify differences in digitally collected data to show how experts predict volcanic eruptions.
- Use secondary research to learn about continental drift and tectonic plates.
- Label diagrams to demonstrate an understanding of volcanic features.

Vocabulary	earth	mountain
volcano	earthquake	outer core
convergent	eruption	plate boundary
crust	inner core	tectonic plates
divergent	mantle	transform

Learning outcomes

- I can describe key aspects of physical geography – volcanoes and earthquakes including plate tectonics.
- I can use maps, atlases, globes and digital/computer mapping to locate countries and describe features studied.
- I can use six figure grid references.