



## Lowerhouse Junior School Geography Overview Sheet



### Year 6 – What do we know about North America and what are its main geographical features?



**Rationale:** The North Americas will allow the children to explore and find out about the continents of North and South America, along with the countries that form them. The children will look in depth at some of the contrasting regions of America, find out about the landscape, climate and locations of each area. The children will carry out fieldwork in their local area to help them identify the similarities and differences between a region of the Americas and where they live. The children will also develop their map and atlas skills and practise reading and writing co-ordinates.

#### **Substantive Knowledge:**

##### Locational Knowledge

- Locate the world's countries, using maps to focus on Europe (including the location of Russia) and North America.
- Identify the position and significance of Northern Hemisphere, the Prime/Greenwich Meridian and time zones (including day and night).

##### Place Knowledge

- A region within North or South America.

##### Human and physical Geography

- Describe and understand key aspects of: - physical geography, including: rivers, mountains.- human geography, including: the distribution of natural resources including energy, food, minerals and water.

#### **Overview:**

Lesson 1 – Locate North America on a world map. Understand the significance of the Northern Hemisphere, Prime Meridian, and time zones.

Lesson 2 – Describe and understand key aspects of physical geography, focusing on major rivers in North America.

Lesson 3 – Describe and understand key aspects of physical geography, focusing on the Rocky Mountains.

Lesson 4 – Understand types of settlement and land use in North America. Discuss the impact of physical geography on human activities.

Lesson 5 – Understand the distribution of natural resources, including minerals and water. Discuss the impact of resource distribution on human activities and economies.

Lesson 6 - Explain geographical features and processes studied. Ask and answering causal questions about geography.

#### **Key Vocabulary**

**Alpine** - Relating to high mountains, especially the Alps.

**Deciduous** - Referring to trees and shrubs that lose their leaves in autumn.

**Coniferous** - Referring to trees that have needles and cones and stay green all year, like pine trees.

**Countries** - Different areas of land that have their own governments and borders.

**Everglades** - A vast wetland area in Florida, known for its diverse wildlife, especially alligators.

**Glacier** - A large, slow-moving mass of ice that forms from compacted snow over many years.

**Great Plains** - A vast area of flat land in North America, characterised by grasslands and few trees.

**Inuit** - A group of indigenous people who live in the Arctic, primarily in Canada, Greenland, and Alaska.

**Panama Canal** - A man-made waterway in Panama that connects the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans, allowing ships to travel between them.

**Tundra** - A cold, treeless region where the ground is frozen for most of the year, found in the Arctic and Antarctic.

#### **Impact/Assessment**

**Most Children will:** • Use an atlas to find the names of countries • Use an atlas to find names of cities • Identify similarities and difference between a place in North America and where they live • Identify similarities and differences between the climate of a place in North America and where they live • Explain the difference between human geography and physical geography • Identify similarities and differences between human and physical geography of a place in North America and where they live • Explain how latitude affects the geography and climate of a region • Describe the significance of the equator, tropics and poles