

United



Recommended year group: Year 1 **Theme focus:** Geography, Design and Technology, Music, PSHE, History, Art **Suggested term:** Spring

Theme introduction

United is a geography-driven theme in which pupils learn about the four countries of the UK and their physical and human geographical features. Pupils will learn what it means to be a British citizen, focusing on the British Values and the things that the UK is well-known for such as food, sport and music. Through a history focus, pupils will discuss who the kings and queens have been throughout history and then discover how King Charles II played a significant role during a major event in British history – the Great Fire of London. The art Explodes will provide pupils with the opportunity to make their own coat of arms and collage.

Driving Question

What does it mean to be British?

Switched on Science Unit

Who am I?

Switched on Computing Unit

We are TV Chefs

Linked reading texts

The Paper Bag Princess by Robert Munsch

Beegu by Alexis Deacon

Writing outcomes

Character / Setting description

Character or setting description based on the story *Beegu*.

Adventure story

Write own version of *The Paper Bag Princess*.

Curriculum coverage

Geography – Britain, Similarities and Differences, Physical Geography, Human Geography, Environment

Design Technology – Food Preparation and Cooking

Music – Appreciate and Understand

PSHE – Relationships, Living in the Wider World

History – Historical Vocabulary, Chronology, Cause and Consequence

Art – Other Techniques, Evaluating and Appreciating

Excite

'United' day:

Pupils will be invited to wear red, white and blue to school that day and they will embrace all things British.

Pupils have a Great British Tea Party, eating afternoon tea foods such as scones, sandwiches and cakes.

Schools could invite members of the community to share what it means to them to be British. This could be people from a local care home, police officers or a local MP. They could then talk about British Values too.

Explore

There are 13 Explore sessions:

Explore 1: The United Kingdom

Explore 2: City life

Explore 3: Let's take a vote

Explore 4: What does it mean to be British?

Explore 5: Top of the pops

Explore 6: Wellbeing: What matters to me?

Explore 7: Money, money, money

Explore 8: The British timeline

Explore 9: Kings and queens

Explore 10: London's burning

Explore 11: Coat of arms

Explore 12: The Union Flag

Explore 13: 3D UK

Theme essential vocabulary

Britain, British Values, city, coat of arms, democracy, Great Fire of London, human geography, Individual Liberty, monarch, physical geography, Rule of Law, Union Flag

Essential knowledge/concepts

1. There are four countries in the UK: England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland.
2. A capital city is usually the largest, busiest city in a country.
3. Physical features are the geographical features that are natural and not man-made.
4. Human features are the geographical features made by humans.
5. Humans are having a negative effect on the environment by dropping litter and sending litter to landfill sites.
6. Each country of the UK has a dish that it is well-known for.
7. The Royal Albert Hall in London is a music hall where many UK artists and bands have performed.
8. The British Values are: Democracy, Individual Liberty, Respect & Tolerance and Rule of Law.
9. Money comes from different sources and we can spend or save it.
10. Historical events can be ordered on a timeline.
11. There have been many kings and queens throughout history.
12. Stamps have a portrait of the Queen on and we place them on letters when sending them in the post.
13. The Great Fire of London happened in 1666 and King Charles II helped to bring the fire to an end.
14. A coat of arms represents a family.
15. The Union Flag is made up of the flags of England, Scotland and Northern Ireland.

Excel

The key assessment outcomes of this unit are:

Explore 1: The United Kingdom

Explore 2: City life

Explore 8: The British timeline

Explore 10: London's burning

Explore 13: 3D UK

Exhibit

Pupils to hold a 'United' celebration where they celebrate all that they have learned about the UK.

Pupils can cook some of the meals from the theme, share their artwork and learning, and play some UK music.

Teachers can invite other classes, parents or the community to attend.

Possible wider experiences

Pupils visit a local city and take a walk around it, looking for human and physical geographical features.

Flipped learning opportunities

Research a city in the UK and create a poster about it. Pupils focus on including a landmark and another place to visit.

Family learning suggestion

Pupils research famous UK dishes and create one at home with their families. Pupils could write down the recipe for their friends to make the same meal.

Or

Pupils create a Great Fire of London artwork. They can use black card to cut out the silhouettes of buildings, and chalk or pastel to create a fiery scene in the background.

Cultural awareness

Key piece of music

'Hello' by Adele

Key piece of art

'The Great Fire of London' by Jan Griffier

Key poem

'The British' by Benjamin Zephaniah