

Previous Knowledge

- Naming the capital cities of the UK and the country's wider location globally.
- Prior experience of using an atlas and a globe. Use of geographical digital imaging such as Google Earth.
- An understanding of human and physical geography.

Incredible Oxford

The History & Geography of the City of Oxford

Key Concepts

- **Monarchy:** the role and impact of kings, queens, and royal families in shaping societies, politics, and global relations.
- **Culture:** the arts, ideas, customs, and social behaviour of a particular people or society.

Learning Point 1: Rivers & Waterways

To understand the role of the river Thames in the growth of the city.

- Trace the waterways through Oxford and beyond.
- Explore the role and significance of the River Thames, River Cherwell, and Oxford Canal in the city's history and daily life.
- Understand what a floodplain is and how Oxford's location impacts the city, and the challenges of managing flooding.
- Examine the importance of these waterways for transport, commerce, recreation, and biodiversity.

How have the rivers and waterways shaped Oxford and its history?

Learning Point 2: Oxfordshire the county

To identify Oxfordshire and other counties within the UK.

- Identify Oxfordshire on a map of the UK.
- Look at the other home counties around Oxfordshire.
- Trace the river Thames and its tributaries through different counties.
- Understand why the counties are named after a specific town or city (Oxford naming Oxfordshire for example).

Why is the county of Oxfordshire named after the city of Oxford?

Vocabulary

Floodplain: An area of low ground next to a river, formed mainly of river sediments and subject to flooding.

Sustainability: ways of helping look after our planet for future generations.

Urbanization: The process by which towns and cities are formed and become larger.

Landmarks: An object or feature of a landscape that is easily seen and recognized.

Physical Geography: natural features and processes.

Human Geography: how human activity affects or is influenced by the earth's surface.

The Big Topic Question:

How important will Oxford be in the future?

Will Oxford still be important academically, and as a growing city in the distant future? How has its past helped to inform your decisions?

- Use all the previous learning points to determine whether the university and growth of the city will continue to be important to the UK.
- Discuss and clarify any misconceptions.
- Produce an information text to explain your answer to the Big Topic Question.

Learning Point 3: The urbanisation of Oxford

I can trace the changes of the city of Oxford over time and predict future changes.

- Use aerial maps to see how the city has changed over the last 100 years.
- Compare with London, using the same time frame and spot trends and influences for growth.
- Identify some human geographical features, including key sites such as Oxford Castle, Radcliffe Camera, Bodleian Library, Sheldonian Theatre and Bridge of Sighs.

How has the city changed over the last 100 years?