

Year 5 Geography Knowledge Organiser – North America

Key Knowledge – Selected Vocabulary and Definitions

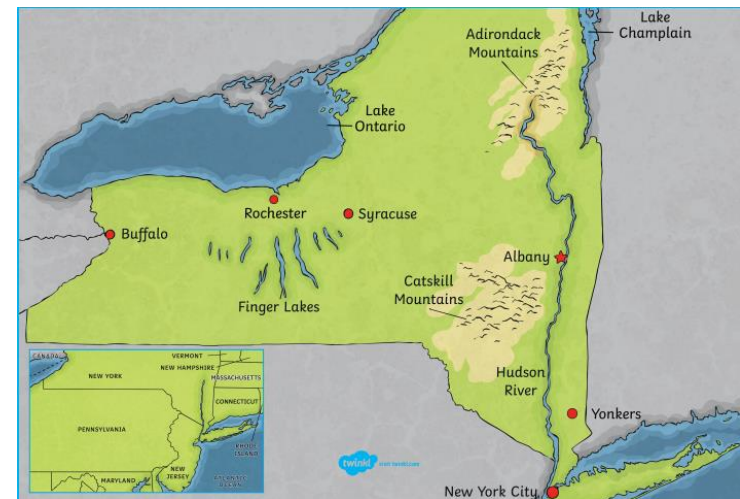
State	A nation or country/area governed by a political system of its own.
North America	A continent in the west.
Continent	A group of countries.
Topography	The study of physical features within a place.
Elevation	Height
Canyon	A deep, narrow valley.
Canal	Passage of water.
Waterfall	River water falling vertically
Glacier	A slow moving mass of ice.
Dam	A barrier across a river.
Irrigation	Supplying water to land and crops.
District	An area of land.
Commerical	Trading (buying and selling).
Industrial	An area where products are produced/manufactured.
Rural	An area in or around the countryside.
Residential	Part of a town or city consisting of houses.
Vegetation	Plant in a given place.
Population	The amount of people living in a place.

Curriculum Objectives (Case Study – New York)

- I can compare the physical features of a region in North America (New York) and a region in the UK, identifying similarities and differences.
- I can describe and understand key aspects of human geography including types of settlement, land use, economic activity and trade links and the distribution of natural resources.
- I can identify the physical characteristics and key topographical features of countries within North America.

Key Questions

- Can you name three countries in North America?
- Can you list five key topographical features in North America?
- Can you describe the difference in land use between North and South New York (state)?
- Can you list three items, which are imported and exported by New York?
- Can you list two similarities and two differences in physical features between New York City and Liverpool?



Key Knowledge – Topographical Features

The Mississippi River	The second longest river in the world, which passes/crosses through 10 states.
The Rockies	A major mountain range in Western America starting in Canada and running all the way to New Mexico.
Redwood Forest	A national park situated in California.
The Grand Canyon	A deep valley carved by the Colorado river situated in Arizona.
The Hoover Dam	One of the largest manmade structures in the world – built to prevent flooding within the Colorado River.
The Panama Canal	A large shipping canal used to link the Pacific and Atlantic Oceans.
Niagra Falls	The largest waterfalls in North America situated on the border between Canada and the USA.
The Hubbard Glacier	A slow moving river of ice situated in Alaska
Mt McKinley	The highest mountain peak in North America, situated in Alaska.
Death Valley	Part of the Mojave Desert in Eastern California. The hottest, driest place in North America.



Key Knowledge – New York

Hudson Valley	An area within the state of New York, which stretches along the Hudson River.
Hudson River	A 315 mile river, which runs from North to South through New York.
New York Imports	Diamonds, artwork, gold, clothes, luggage and precious stones. New York import goods from China, Canada, Israel, India, France, Italy, Switzerland and the UK.
New York Exports	Raw gold, loose diamonds, jewelry, telephones and artwork. New York exports goods to Canada, the UK, Japan, Israel and Switzerland.
The Land use of NY	New York does not have a high percentage of rural land, therefore imports a lot of natural goods. The population is generally wealthy and so there is a high percentage of the exporting of expensive goods
New York Trade	The buying and selling of goods within New York.



