



YEAR 3 AUTUMN VOCABULARY LIST – HISTORY & GEOGRAPHY

History Key Vocabulary – The Stone Age

Prehistory: The time before written records.

Palaeolithic:(Old Stone Age) Using chipped stone tools.

Mesolithic:(Middle Stone Age) Ancient cultural stage.

Neolithic:(New Stone Age) Using polished stone tools.

Archaeology: The scientific study of human activity through the recovery and analysis of material culture.

Flint: Used to make stone tools and start fires.

Artefacts: An object that has been made by a person, such as a tool or a decoration.

Ice Age: The glacial age, when thick ice sheets cover vast areas of land.

Quarry: A large, deep pit, from which stone is extracted.

Forage: To search widely for food or provisions.

Hunter-gatherer: Nomadic people who live chiefly by hunting, fishing and harvesting wild food.

Domesticated: Tame animals to be kept as a pet or on a farm.

Megalith: A large stone that forms a prehistoric monument.

Settlement: A place, where people establish a community.

Community: A group of people living in the same place.

Crop: A cereal, fruit, or vegetable plant.

Revolution: To overthrow a government or social order, in favour of a new system.

Saddle quern: A slab of stone slightly hollow on the surface in which corn can be ground using a large pebble.

Midden: A dunghill or refuse heap.

Dolmens: A megalithic tomb with a large flat stone laid on upright ones.

Henge: A prehistoric monument consisting of a circle of stone or wooden uprights.

Solstice: The point where the Sun appears to reach either its highest or lowest point in the sky for the year.

Grave goods: Objects put with bodies in prehistoric graves, probably intended for use in the afterlife.

Geography Key Vocabulary – Climate

Antarctica (Southern Hemisphere): a continent with land beneath the ice sheet, surrounded by sea

Arctic (Northern Hemisphere): water beneath the sea ice, surrounded by land.

Arctic climate: long, cold winters and short, cool summers.

Arid: hot and dry; extremely dry, especially from lack of rainfall.

Biome: geographical area defined by its climate, plant and animal life and the activities of the people who live there

Climate: weather patterns in a place over a long period, such as seasonal rainfall, sunshine and temperatures

Continent: A large solid area of land

Desert: area with very little rain, extreme heat and/or cold, where few forms of life can survive

Desert climate zone: very hot, dry

Equator: the imaginary circle around the earth that is halfway between the North and South Poles.

Equatorial, rain forest or tropical climate zone: very hot, wet

Fauna: animals native to an area, such as birds, reptiles and insects

Flora: plants native to an area, such as trees, climbers, flowers and grasses

Glacier: a large mass of ice that moves slowly.

Grassland: Areas of land that are vast and open, with grasses being the main plants

Hemisphere: formed by dividing the earth into the Northern and Southern Hemispheres at the equator, or into the Eastern and Western Hemispheres at a meridian.

Mediterranean: dry summers and mild, wet winters.

Permafrost: an area of land that is permanently frozen below the surface

Polar climate zone: very cold; a dry climate with very low temperatures

Precipitation: rain, hail, fog, sleet and snow

Season: one of the four parts of the year; spring, summer, autumn and winter.

Savannah: A biome that is hot all year round with a long, dry season

Sub-tropical zone: hot with wet and dry seasons

Taiga: very large area of wet land covered with conifer trees

Temperate climate zone: neither very hot nor very cold; no extreme weather, with rainfall throughout the year.