



# YEAR 4 SPRING VOCABULARY LIST – HISTORY & GEOGRAPHY

## History Key Vocabulary – Anglo Saxons

- Invasion:** Invading a country or region with an armed force.
- Dark Ages:** The Early Middle Ages.
- Pagan:** A person holding religious beliefs other than those of the main world religions.
- Plunder:** To steal goods from a place or person.
- Scandinavia:** Northern Europe.
- Grave goods:** Objects (as weapons, ornaments, tools) that are found buried with the dead in prehistoric graves.
- Archaeologist:** A person who studies through the excavation(digging) of sites.
- Sceptre:** A decorated stick that is carried by a queen or king.
- Garnet:** A precious stone.
- Millefiori:** Ornamental glass.
- Hoard:** A store of money or valued objects.
- Metal detecting:** The hobby of using a metal detector to hunt for buried coins or archaeological artifacts.
- Saga:** A long story of heroic achievement.
- Chronicle:** Factual written account of important or historical events.
- Illuminated manuscript:** Written book that has been decorated with gold or silver.
- Ecclesiastical:** Christian church.
- Monastery:** A building where monks live.
- Old English:** Earliest recorded form of the English language.
- Strata:** A series of layers of rock in the ground.
- Shard:** A piece of broken ceramic, metal, glass, or rock.
- Site:** An area of ground on which a town, building, or monument is constructed.
- Trench:** A long, narrow ditch.

## Geography Key Vocabulary – The Americas

- Arable farming:** Farming that involves plants or crops.
- Atlantic Ocean:** An ocean that is bordered by Europe and Africa on the east and by North and South America in the west.
- Canyon:** A deep, narrow valley with steep sides.
- Climate:** weather patterns in a place over a long period, such as seasonal rainfall, sunshine and temperatures.
- Compass points:** points on a magnetic compass marking the four main directions: North, South, East, West, and intermediate directions.
- Equator:** imaginary line/circle of **latitude** around the Earth, midway between North and South Poles, dividing the Earth into Northern and Southern **Hemispheres**.
- Flood plain:** An area of low-lying ground next to a river, formed mainly of river sediments, which is likely to flood.
- Grassland:** Large area of land filled with low growing plants (grass).
- Hemisphere:** half of the Earth usually divided into the Northern and Southern hemisphere.
- Human geography:** how human's activity has affected the Earth's surface.
- Itinerary:** A detailed plan of travel.
- Latitude:** Imaginary vertical line (also known as **parallels**) circle the Earth from east to west. These lines are the same distance apart.
- Levee:** An embankment built to prevent the overflow of a river.
- Longitude:** imaginary vertical line which run north and south. Lines of longitude are not equal distances.
- Mountain Range:** A series or chain of mountains that are close together.
- Pacific Ocean:** The largest ocean in the world.
- Pastoral farming:** Farming that involves animals.
- Physical feature:** naturally occurring, e.g. rivers, mountains, lakes
- Physical geography:** the make-up of the land e.g. hills, lakes, mountains, forests
- Plateau:** A large region that is higher than the surrounding area and is relatively flat.
- Population Density:** Measurement of the number of people in an area. This can be calculated by dividing the number of people by the area in question.
- Population Distribution:** The pattern of where people live. Places which are sparsely population contain few people. Places which are densely populated contain many people.
- Prairie:** A large area of grassland.
- Region:** An area of the earth's surface that has certain features of land and climate.
- Route 66:** Highway 66 traverses the USA from Chicago on the East Coast to Los Angeles on the West Coast
- Southern Hemisphere:** The half of the earth that is south of the equator.

