# Additional Vocabulary



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# The importance of vocabulary



Pupils with the most extensive vocabulary have:

- better reasoning, inference and pragmatic skills<sup>1</sup>
- academic success and employment<sup>2</sup>
- better mental health in adulthood.<sup>3</sup>

According to Isabel L. Beck, and others, in their book *Bringing Words to Life* <sup>4</sup>, pupils should be taught, systematically, a range of academic words so that they can articulate complex ideas.

In *The Essentials Curriculum*, each milestone introduces a range of geographical vocabulary. The next few pages provide a pupil-friendly glossary of these terms.

1 Law, J., Charlton, J., Dockrell, J., Gascoigne, M., McKean, C., Theakston, A (2017) Early Language Development, Education Endowment Foundation 2, 3 Law, J., Charlton, J., Asmussen, K. (2017) Language as a Child Wellbeing Indicator, Early Intervention Foundation/Newcastle University 4 Beck, Isabel L., McKeown, Margaret G., Kucan, Linda (2002, 2008) Bringing Words To Life, Guildford Press



## Milestone 1 vocabulary



Vocabulary	Definition
place	A geographical point, such as a town, city, etc
investigate	To inquire into (a situation or problem, especially a crime or death) thoroughly; examine systematically, especially in order to discover the truth
pertinent	Relating to the matter at hand; relevant
city	A large town
town	A densely populated urban area, typically smaller than a city and larger than a village, having some local powers of government and a fixed boundary
village	A group of houses, together with other buildings such as a church and a school in the countryside
coastal	Relating to things that are in the sea or on the land near a coast
rural	Relating to, or characteristic of, the countryside or country life
continent	A very large area of land, such as Africa or Asia, that consists of several countries
surrounding	The conditions, scenery, etc, around a person, place or thing; environment
locate	To find out where something or someone is

Vocabulary	Definition
environment	External conditions or surroundings, especially those in which people live or work
characteristic	A distinguishing quality, attribute, or trait
map	A drawing of a particular area such as a city, country, or continent, showing its main features as they would appear if looked at from above
world	The planet that we live on
atlas	A book of maps
globe	A ball-shaped object with a map of the world on it, usually fixed on a stand
countries	Territories distinguished by its people, culture, language, geography, etc.
ocean	One of the five very large areas of sea on the Earth's surface
human features	Human geography looks at the impact and behaviour of people and how they relate to the physical world
physical features	Physical geography looks at the natural processes of the Earth, such as climate and plate tectonics
United Kingdom (UK)	England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland; officially the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland





## Milestone 1 vocabulary (continued)

Vocabulary	Definition
vegetation	Plants, trees and flowers
factory	A large building where machines are used to make large quantities of goods
farm	An area of land, together with the buildings on it, that is used for growing crops or raising animals, usually in order to sell them
house	A building in which people live, usually the people belonging to one family
office	A room or a part of a building where people work sitting at desks
shop	A building or part of a building where things are sold
compass	An instrument that you use for finding directions. It has a dial and a magnetic needle that always points to the north
north	The direction that is on your left when you are looking towards the direction where the sun rises
south	The direction that is on your right when you are looking towards the direction where the sun rises
east	The direction that you look towards in the morning in order to see the sun rise
west	The direction that you look towards in the evening in order to see the sun set
construct	To build or make something, e.g. a building, road or machine
symbol	Something that represents or stands for something else, usually by convention or association, especially a material object used to represent something abstract

Vocabulary	Definition
grid reference	A method of locating a point on a map or plan by a number referring to the lines of a grid drawn upon the map or plan and to subdivisions of the space between the lines
surrounding	The conditions, scenery, etc. around a person, place or thing; environment
environment	External conditions or surroundings, especially those in which people live or work
characteristic	A distinguishing quality, attribute or trait
locate	To find out where something or someone is
seasonal	Occurring at a certain season or certain seasons of the year
daily	Happening every day
weather	The condition of the atmosphere in one area at a particular time, e.g. if it is raining, hot or windy
hot	Having a high temperature
cold	Having a low temperature
equator	An imaginary line around the middle of the Earth at an equal distance from the North Pole and the South Pole



## Milestone 1 vocabulary (continued)

Vocabulary	Definition
North Pole	The place on the surface of the Earth that is furthest towards the north
South Pole	The place on the surface of the Earth that is furthest towards the south
beach	An area of sand or stones beside the sea
coast	An area of land that is next to the sea
hill	An area of land that is higher than the land that surrounds it
mountain	A very high area of land with steep sides
river	A large amount of fresh water flowing continuously in a long line across the land
soil	The substance on the surface of the Earth in which plants grow
valley	A low stretch of land between hills, especially one that has a river flowing through it.





## Milestone 2 vocabulary

Vocabulary	Definition
hemisphere	One half of the Earth
Tropic of Cancer	An imaginary line around the Earth 23.5° north of the equator
Tropic of Capricorn	An imaginary line around the Earth 23.5° south of the equator
Arctic	The area of the world around the North Pole. It is extremely cold and there is very little light in winter and very little darkness in summer
Antarctic	The area around the South Pole
time zone	One of the areas into which the world is divided, where the time is calculated as being a particular number of hours behind or ahead of Greenwich Mean Time (the local clock time at Greenwich, UK)
topographical	Relating to the physical features of an area of land, e.g. its hills, valleys and rivers
land use	The management and modification of the natural environment or wilderness into a built environment, such as settlements, and semi-natural habitats, such as arable fields, pastures and managed woods
volcano	A mountain from which hot melted rock, gas, steam and ash from inside the Earth sometimes burst
water cycle	The circulation of the Earth's water: water evaporates from the sea into the atmosphere, where it condenses and falls as rain or snow, returning to the sea by rivers or returning to the atmosphere by evaporation
earthquake	A shaking of the ground caused by movement of the Earth's crust.









Vocabulary	Definition
sampling	The act or process of taking a small part or quantity of something as a sample for testing or analysis
systematic	Characterised by the use of order and planning; methodical
analyse	To consider something carefully or use statistical methods in order to fully understand it
effectiveness	The quality of working well and producing the results that were intended
aerial	Existing, occurring, moving or operating in the air
London Tube map	A schematic transport map of the lines, stations and services of the London Underground, known colloquially as 'the Tube', hence the map's name
climate	The general weather conditions that are typical of a place
biome	A major ecological community, extending over a large area and usually characterised by a dominant vegetation
settlement	A place newly settled; colony

Vocabulary	Definition
economic	Concerned with the organisation of the money, industry and trade of a country, region or society
trade	The exchange of goods and services between one country and another. Goods bought into a country are called imports, and those sold to another country are called exports
distribution	The way in which something is shared out among a group or spread over an area
energy	The power derived from the utilisation of physical or chemical resources, especially to provide light and heat or to work machines
food	Anything that nourishes or stimulates; whatever helps something to keep active, grow, etc.
minerals	Substances that are formed naturally in the Earth. Minerals are usually solid, inorganic, have a crystal structure and form naturally by geological processes
water supply	The provision of water by public utilities, commercial organisations, community endeavours or by individuals, usually via a system of pumps and pipes
Ordnance Survey (OS)	The national mapping agency of the United Kingdom which covers the island of Great Britain
population	All the inhabitants of a particular place
depict	Represent in words; describe.

