The USA: Geography: Year 3/4



	Learning Objective	Overview	Assessment Questions	Resources
Lesson 1	To be able to locate the USA and its states on a map.	Children will start by identifying that the USA is a country within the continent of North America, locating both on a world map. They will then find out that the USA comprises 50 states. They will then use compass points to identify the states and describe where they are in location to one another.	 Do children know that the USA is a country in North America? Can children locate the USA on a world map? Can children start to identify and locate some of the fifty states? 	 Slides Worksheet 1A/1B/1C/1D/1E/1F Clue Cards 1A/1B/1C Fifty States Map (FSD? activity only)
Lesson 2	To be able to identify and compare the American states.	Children will learn about the six main regions that make up the USA and identify which states belong to which region. They can then find out more identifying features of each state, including the state flag, motto and fun facts.	 Do children know that the USA is split into fifty states? Can children identify and locate the fifty states? Can children start to compare states? 	 Slides Worksheet 2A/2B/2C/2D Fifty States Facts eBook States Regions Maps State Name Cards (FSD? activity only)
Lesson 3	To be able to identify and describe the different landscapes of the USA.	Children will explore the landscapes of the USA by looking at a variety of photos. Through the photos, they will learn about different American geographical features, such as mountains, coasts, prairies, forests and deserts. They will start to compare these landscapes using geographical language, using pictures and/or online maps.	 Can children identify and describe a variety of different landscapes? Can children compare landscapes and explain similarities and differences? Can children identify links between climate and landscapes? 	 Slides Picture Cards Landscape Keywords Worksheet 3A/3B/3C/3D Access to the internet (FSD? activity only)
Lesson 4	To be able to identify, explore and compare American cities.	Children will identify the difference between a village, a town and a city before exploring some of the largest and most famous cities in the USA. They will find out about the capital of the USA, as well as the capital city of each individual state. They can then carry out their own research to find out more about an America city, or compare Washington, D.C. with London.	 Can children identify and locate some of the major cities in the USA? Can children describe some American cities? Can children compare American cities by identifying similarities and differences? 	 Slides Worksheet 4A/4B/4C/4D City Cards USA Map Sheet Information Cards (FSD? activity only)
Lesson 5	To find out about national parks in the USA and explore their functions.	Children will start by considering the effects of urbanisation on wildlife before looking at national parks in the USA, particularly Yellowstone. They will explore the features of Yellowstone, as well as other national parks, identifying why they are important.	 Do children know that a national park is a protected area of land? Do children know that national parks help to preserve wildlife? Can children describe the features of some American national parks? 	 Slides Worksheet 5A/5B/5C/5D Challenge Card 5A/5B Fact Cards (FSD? activity only) Yellowstone National Park Map (FSD? activity only)
Lesson 6	To find out about natural phenomena in the USA.	After considering which state from the three given they would most like to live in, children then find out about blizzards, tornadoes, hurricanes and earthquakes in the USA, and where they are most likely to occur. They will consider the effects these natural phenomena have on people and landscapes.	 Do children know what earthquakes, tornados, blizzards and hurricanes are? Can children discuss the impacts of these natural phenomena on the USA? Can children identify areas of the USA where these phenomena are most likely to occur? 	Slides Worksheet 6A/6B/6C Picture Card 6A/6B/6C Information Sheet (FSD? activity only) Poster Templates (FSD? activity only)
Lesson 7	To be able to plan and describe a visit to the USA.	Children will consolidate their understanding of the USA by considering which state they would most like to visit on holiday. They will find out about some of America's most popular tourist destinations and help travel agent customers decide where the best places to visit would be, based on given criteria. Alternatively, they can create a TV or radio advert to encourage tourists to visit a particular state.	 Can children suggest where they would most like to visit in the USA based on their knowledge of the country? Can children describe some of the things they could see and do in the USA? Can children use their knowledge of the culture of America to help describe a visit? 	Slides Worksheet 7A/7B/7C Customer Cards State Cards (FSD? activity only) End of Unit Quiz