

Year 5 - Europe

Key Vocabulary:	
Continent	A large, solid landmass often broken down into smaller countries within the continent.
Climate	The long-term pattern of weather.
Polar climate	Found above the Arctic Circle and below the Antarctic circle. Cool summers (rarely above 10°C) and freezing cold winters (-40+°C)
Temperate climate	Found between the tropics and polar regions, with mild to warm summers and cold winters. The greater range of temperatures means there are distinct seasons.
Mediterranean climate	Most commonly found around the Mediterranean Sea, the summers are dry and hot, with mild wet winters.
Biome	A collection of plants and animals that have common characteristics for the shared physical climate/environment they live in.
Tundra (biome)	Treeless environment with a cold climate and little rainfall. Found below the arctic region.
Coniferous (biome)	Forests of evergreen trees found in regions where there are long, cold winters and warm summers.
Deciduous (biome)	Forests of trees that shed leaves during one season per year, often found between the tropic and polar regions, where there are warm, moist summers and cool winters.
Mediterranean (biome)	Most commonly found around the Mediterranean Sea, the summers are dry and hot, with mild wet winters.
Alpine (biome)	Found in mountain regions, above 3000m up to the snow line.
European Union	A group of 27 European countries that work together, sharing the same goals and values
Currency	The money system used in a country.



Key Knowledge:

Europe is a continent, consisting of 50 countries.

Europe is bounded by the Ural Mountains in Russia, Arctic Ocean, Atlantic Ocean and Mediterranean Sea.

Europe as a continent should not be confused with the EU (European Union).

There are 3 main climates in Europe: polar, temperate and Mediterranean

The 6 main biomes are: Tundra, coniferous forest, deciduous forest, Mediterranean, alpine and temperate grassland.

The EU consists of 27 countries that work together, sharing the same goals and values. Each country elects a member of the EU parliament to make rules and laws that make life equal and better for those countries. Most share the same currency, the Euro, and allow EU members to travel freely between borders.



Flag of the European Union