

Vocabulary

Word	Meaning
British Isles	A collection of islands which includes the four Home Nations and the Republic of Ireland
capital city	The most important city in a country where the government is based
Home Nations	The four countries that make up the UK
Island nation	A country completely surrounded by sea
landscape	What you can see when you look at an area
lowland	Flat areas usually near the sea
man-made features	buildings, roads, railways, canals
National Park	A large area of special land that is protected so it cannot be changed
natural features	hills, mountains, rivers
rural	An area of countryside with lots of open space or woodland
topography	The features of a place that can be natural or man-made.
United Kingdom (UK)	A group of four countries: England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland
upland	Hilly and mountainous areas
urban	An area with lots of buildings where there is very little open space

The United Kingdom

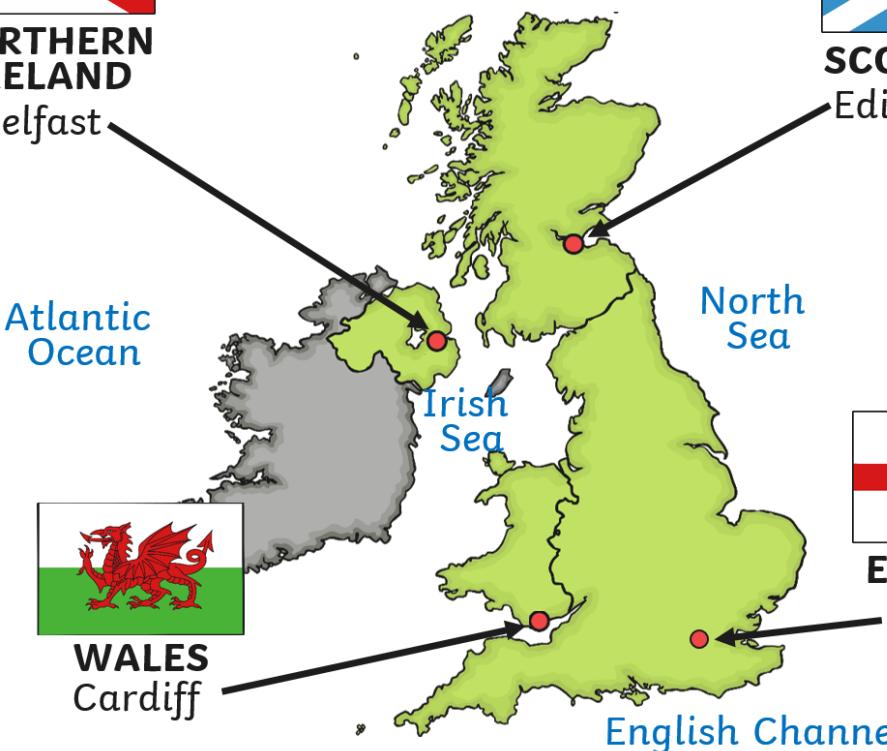
The United Kingdom is made up of four individual countries. These are called the **Home Nations**. They are **England**, **Scotland**, **Wales** and **Northern Ireland**. Each one had its own **capital city**.



NORTHERN IRELAND
Belfast



SCOTLAND
Edinburgh



ENGLAND
London

Different Landscapes

The **landscape** changes all around the United Kingdom. Some areas (like Harrow) are **urban** areas with lots of building and roads. Other areas are **rural** and have lots of open space. Forests and farmland are part of the rural landscape.



Some very special parts of the United Kingdom have been made into **National Parks**. These are special places that are protected so that they will never get spoilt by lots of building. Some of the National Parks are Dartmoor, The Lake District, The New Forest and The Brecon Beacons.



The **upland** areas of the United Kingdom have lots of hills and mountains. Ben Nevis, Snowdon and Scafell Pike are the highest mountains. The **lowland** areas are very flat and tend to be near to around the edges of the United Kingdom near the sea.

Our United Kingdom

Major Landscape Features

You can use an atlas of the United Kingdom to find these major landscape features:

Rivers

- River Severn
- River Thames
- River Mersey
- River Clyde
- River Tyne

Hills and Mountains

- The Chilterns
- The Pennines
- The Grampians
- The Cheviots

National Parks

- Dartmoor
- Exmoor
- New Forest
- Brecon Beacons
- Snowdonia
- Lake District
- Peak District

Remember: the key in an atlas will help you to identify different landscape features.

Extending your learning

Things you could do at home to extend your learning:

1. Mark off on a map of the UK all the places you have visited. Use different colours to mark rural and urban places.
2. Make a list of things that might be different for you if you lived in the countryside—in a rural place.
3. Speak to a friend or relative who lives in a different part of the country and compare how their location is different to yours.
4. Play “Eye Spy” on a long journey—you are only allowed to spot landscape features.