

# Lesson 1

## Holidays and weather in the British Isles

### Aim

To give pupils the opportunity to research the weather in a holiday location within the British Isles.

### National Curriculum programme of study

- 1 (a) ask geographical questions
- 2 (a) use appropriate geographical vocabulary
- 2 (c) use atlases and globes, and maps and plans at a range of scales
- 2 (d) use secondary sources of information
- 2 (e) draw maps and plans at a range of scales
- 3 (a) identify and describe what places are like
- 3 (b) learn the location of places and environments studied
- 3 (c) describe where places are
- 3 (d) explain why places are like they are
- 3 (f) describe and explain how and why places are similar to and different from other places in the same country and elsewhere in the world
- 3 (g) recognise how places fit within a wider geographical context and are interdependent
- 4 (b) recognise some physical and human processes and explain how these cause changes in places and environments
- 7 (b) study a range of places and environments in different parts of the world, including the United Kingdom and the European Union

### Learning objectives

#### Pupils should learn:

- to use maps, atlases and globes;
- to use secondary sources to describe places.

### Learning outcomes

#### Pupils should:

- locate holiday destinations on a map of the British Isles;
- recognise different holiday environments;
- begin to recognise different weather conditions in different parts of the British Isles.

### Prior learning

It is helpful if pupils know the difference between the United Kingdom (Great Britain and Northern Ireland) and the British Isles (Great Britain, Northern Ireland, Republic of Ireland, Isle of Man and the Channel Islands) and are familiar with compass directions.

### Vocabulary

It is helpful if pupils are familiar with words such as map, weather, climate, north, east, south, west, holiday, temperature, rainfall, route, journey, distance and destination.

### Resources

- **Activity sheet A: Where am I?**
- **Activity sheet B: The weather forecast**
- **Map: Weather in the British Isles**

### Advance preparation

- It is helpful to have a large outline of the British Isles on display in the classroom. The pupils could place labels on the map to show where they have been on holiday. Postcards of these places are also helpful.
- Ask your pupils to watch the weather forecast for the British Isles the evening before they are to study the lesson, paying attention to the symbols used on the weather map. Ask them to note down what the weather was going to be like in Scotland, Wales, Ireland, England and their home locality.
- Make copies of the activity sheets and **Map: Weather in the British Isles** for all your pupils.



- Ask them if they think the forecast was accurate.
- Ask your pupils if the weather was going to be the same all over the country or whether some places were going to be different from others.
- Explain that there are variations in weather across the country. Places in the south of the British Isles tend to be warmer than places in the north and places in the north and west tend to be colder and wetter because of the rain brought in by winds blowing over the Atlantic Ocean and because they are higher up.
- Ask the children if they can remember any of the symbols that were used on the map in the weather forecast and get one or two to come up and draw some of the symbols on the board.
- Read through **Activity sheet B: The weather forecast** with your pupils and explain what each of the weather symbols means.
- Ask them to draw a simple outline of the British Isles (they can copy from the **Map: Weather in the British Isles**) and to add weather symbols to show the weather forecast for today.

### Plenary

Ask one or two of your pupils to hold up their weather forecasts for the British Isles and to say what their symbols mean. Explain that they have learnt to use symbols to represent what the weather is like and that weather varies from place to place across the British Isles.

### Notes

Mapping

NW  
W

Mountains C

S

Scotland

Edinburgh



Northumberland



Northern Ireland

North  
Mores



Ireland

East Ang



England

Cornwall



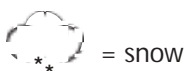
North Downs



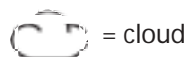
Isle of Wight



**KEY:**



= snow



= cloud

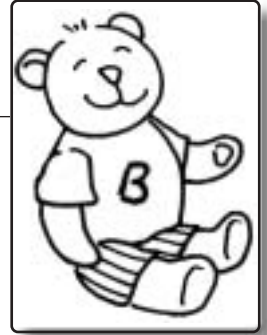
= rain

= cloudy with sunny spells

5°C = t

# Where am I?

## Activity sheet A



Barnaby Bear belongs to the children in class 4 at Castleton School. He likes to guess where the children have spent their holidays. Below, two of the children have given Barnaby some clues about the weather where they went on holiday. Look at the *Map: Weather in the British Isles* and the clues below to find out where they have been.

### Sam says

Clue 1: My holiday place was in the north of Scotland

Clue 2: The weather was snowy

Clue 3: The temperature was 2°C

### Where did Sam go?

### Kerry says

Clue 1: My holiday place was in the south of England

Clue 2: The weather was cloudy

Clue 3: The temperature was 8°C

### Where did Kerry go?

### Emma says

Clue 1: My holiday place was in the north of England

Clue 2: The weather was rainy

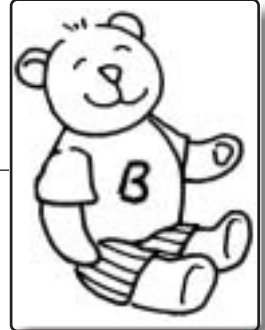
Clue 3: The temperature was 4°C

### Where did Emma go?

# Where am I?

## Activity sheet A cont.

Now give Barnaby Bear some clues about two different holiday places on the *Map: Weather in the British Isles*, just like the children did above. Write the name of the place you are describing in the box at the bottom so that your teacher knows where you are describing.



### Holiday place 1

Clue 1: My holiday place was in the \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_

Clue 2: The weather was \_\_\_\_\_

Clue 3: The temperature was \_\_\_\_\_ °C

### The place I have described is

### Holiday place 2

Clue 1: My holiday place was in the \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_

Clue 2: The weather was \_\_\_\_\_

Clue 3: The temperature was \_\_\_\_\_ °C

### The place I have described is

# The weather forecast

## Activity sheet B

Below are some common weather symbols that weather forecasters use. Draw a simple map of the outline of the British Isles and put on some symbols to show your weather forecast for today.

