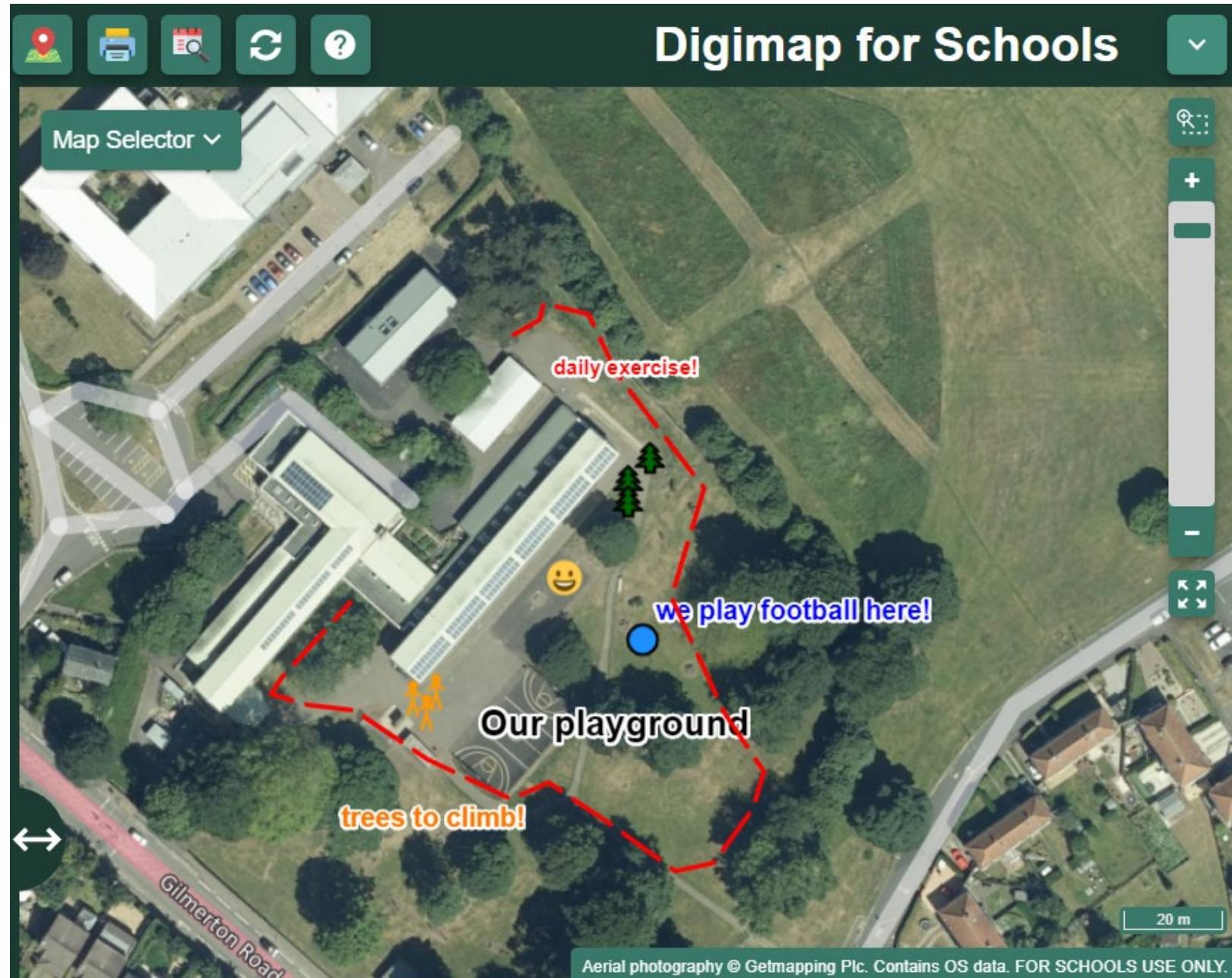


Digimap for Schools

*An introduction for
primary teachers*

**Rowena Pryor, Teaching and
Learning Consultant**



Digimap for Schools

<https://digimapforschools.edina.ac.uk/>

The screenshot displays the Digimap for Schools web application interface. At the top, there is a search bar with the placeholder text "Search places, coords, postcodes..." and a magnifying glass icon. To the right of the search bar are icons for location, printing, a grid, and a refresh function. The main title "Digimap for Schools" is displayed in the top right corner with a dropdown arrow. Below the search bar is a sidebar with several tool categories, each with an icon: Drawing Tools (pencil), Key (vertical lines), Saved Maps (star), Overlays (stack of layers), Measurement Tools (ruler), Add your own data (location pin), Image Search (camera), and Map Information (info icon). At the bottom left of the sidebar is a "Collapse Sidebar" button with a double arrow icon. The main area of the interface is a map of the United Kingdom and Ireland, showing topographic features, roads, and cities. A "Map Selector" dropdown is located in the top left of the map area. On the right side of the map, there is a vertical toolbar with icons for search, zoom in (+), zoom out (-), and pan (four arrows). A scale bar for 100 km is visible in the bottom right corner of the map. At the very bottom right, there is a copyright notice: "© CollinsBartholomew Ltd (2019) FOR SCHOOLS USE ONLY".

Two main aspects of DFS

1. Britain

- Ordnance Survey
- Aerial photos
- Geograph images
- British National Grid references

2. World maps

- Collins Bartholomew
- OpenStreetMap



KS1 NC Programme of Study

Geographical skills and fieldwork

- use world maps, atlases and globes to identify the United Kingdom and its countries, as well as the countries, continents and oceans studied at this key stage
- use simple compass directions (north, south, east and west) and locational and directional language [for example, near and far, left and right], to describe the location of features and routes on a map
- use aerial photographs and plan perspectives to recognise landmarks and basic human and physical features; devise a simple map; and use and construct basic symbols in a key
- use simple fieldwork and observational skills to study the geography of their school and its grounds and the key human and physical features of its surrounding environment

KS2 NC Programme of Study

Geographical skills and fieldwork

- use maps, atlases, globes and digital/computer mapping to locate countries and describe features studied
- use the 8 points of a compass, 4- and 6-figure grid references, symbols and key (including the use of Ordnance Survey maps) to build their knowledge of the United Kingdom and the wider world
- use fieldwork to observe, measure record and present the human and physical features in the local area using a range of methods, including sketch maps, plans and graphs, and digital technologies

DFS Resources and help online

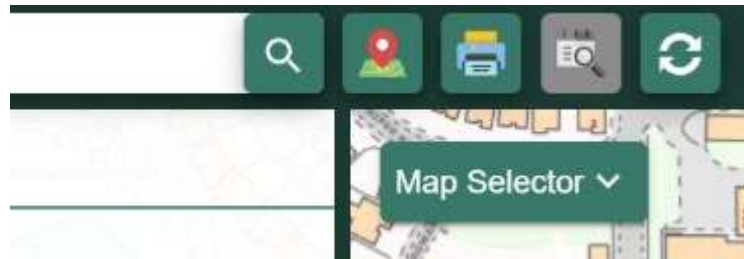
- There is a wide range of resources, with step by step instructions, that can be used at KS1 and KS2.
- When searching for resources filter by key stage or subject:
<https://dfsresources.edina.ac.uk/>
- Help pages for individual features:
<https://digimapforschools.edina.ac.uk/help/key-areas/>
- Quick guides and help videos can be found here:
<https://digimapforschools.edina.ac.uk/help/quick-guides/maps-places/>

Tools

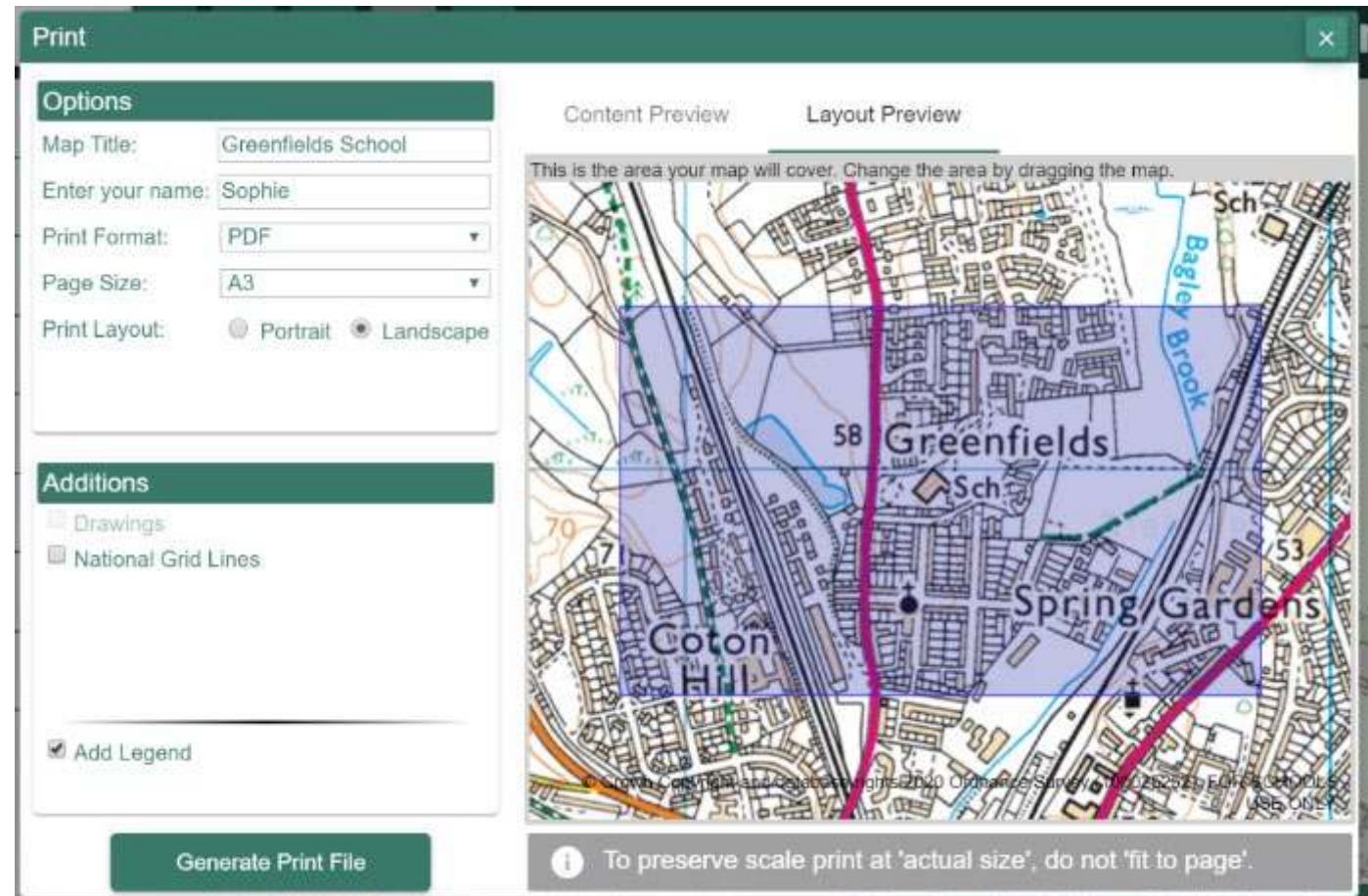


- Can be used on a tablet or laptop (Chrome is best)
- Wide range of tools
- Search for places - specify UK or World
- Draw on and annotate maps
- Save your maps within the software, or
- Print off your map as a PDF or JPG
- Measure distances and areas
- Add your own photos and other data
- Search for images (Britain only)
- Overlays –British National Grid and postcodes (Britain)
- Overlays - Latitude/Longitude Grid, Timezones (world maps)
- Sidebar can be collapsed to see more of the map

Printing maps



- Children can annotate paper maps
- Choose any map, scale, historical, aerial, Britain, world etc to print
- Choose A3 or A4, landscape or portrait
- Choose PDF (or JPG to insert in other documents)
- Select Layout Preview to check print area
- Include gridlines, titles, drawings, key
- NB rename your file as soon as it downloads

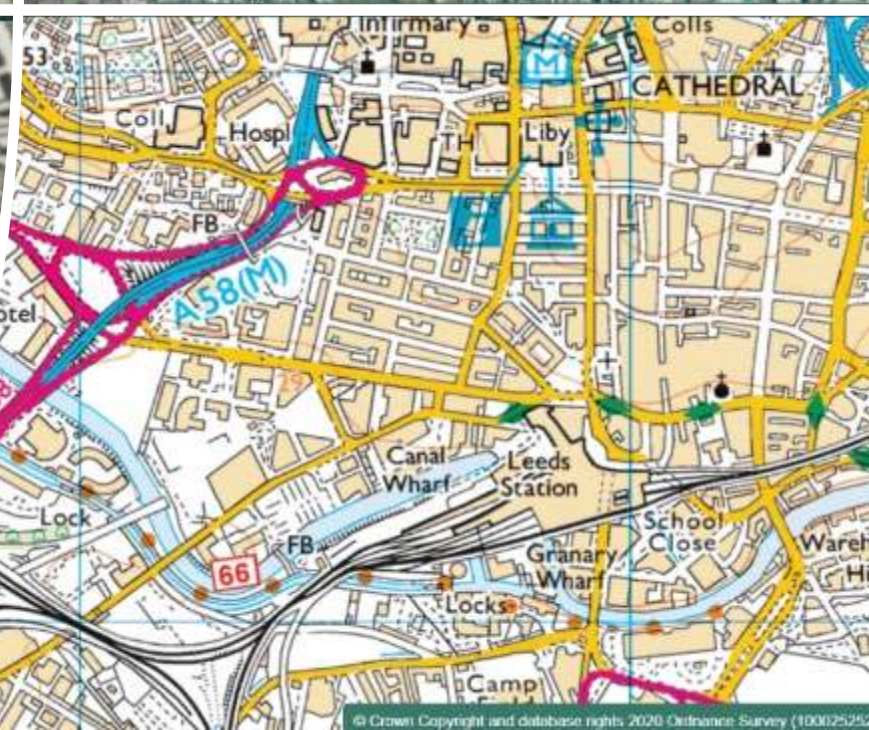


Map Selector

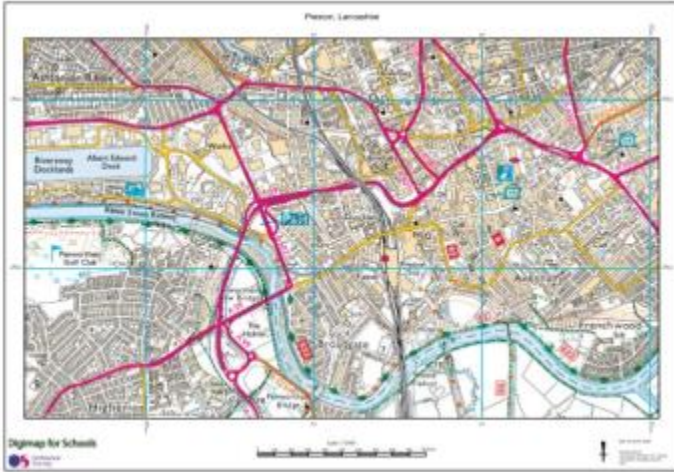
Map Selector ▾

- Ordnance Survey
- Aerial
- AerialX
- 1950s
- 1890s

Use slider to fade between one style of map and another.

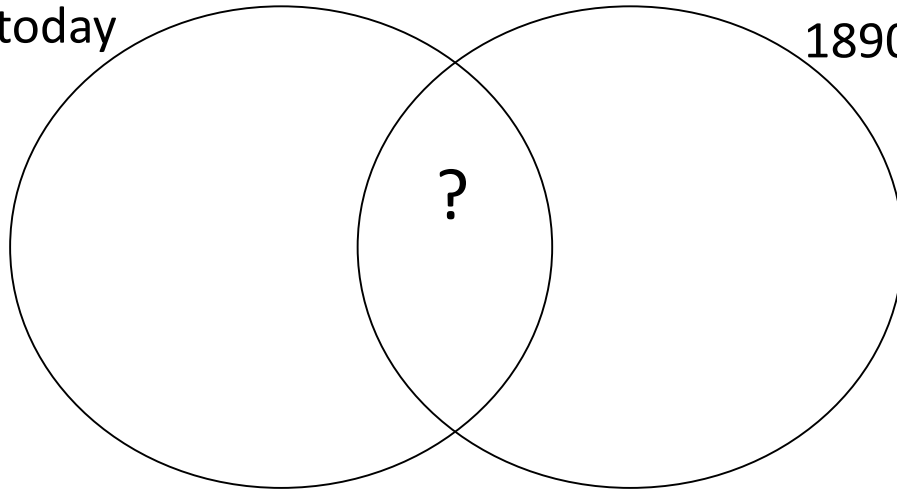


Using historical maps of the local area to investigate change over time



today

1890s



- What features can you see on today's map?
- What features can you see on the 1890s (or 1950s) map?
- What features appear on both maps?
- Which features have disappeared?
- Download a key/legend to help identify features

Zoom in and repeat at a larger scale

Large scale map and aerial image (start with your school)

- Compare and contrast
- Look for human and natural features
- What can be seen on the aerial but not on the map and vice versa



Identifying features of the local area using a key



In pairs children explore a different A3 large-scale map of their local area using a key to identify physical and human geographical features, routes etc.

Digimap for Schools Map Product: OS VectorMap® Local
Basemap: VML Raster10k

Roads		Roads	
Motorway		Motorway	
Primary road		Primary road	
Main road (A Road)		Main road (A Road)	
Secondary road (B Road)		Secondary road (B Road)	
Minor road		Minor road	
Local street		Local street	
Paved/unpaved street		Paved/unpaved street	
Road tunnel		Road tunnel	

Landforms	
Drainage	
Rock	
Scullery	
Shingle	
Cliff	
Large slope	
Standard slope	
Mud	
Soil	
Gravel pit	
Sand pit	
Rolling pit or ring heap	

Buildings	
Building	
Industrial building	
Greenhouse	
Overhead building line	

Water features	
Water	
Water line	
Mean high water	
Mean low water	
Flood arrow	
Water point feature	

Vegetation	
Broad-leaved woodland	
Coniferous woodland	
Mixed woodland	
Orchard	
Shrub	
Unimproved grass	
Heathland	
Marsh	

Height	
Spot height	

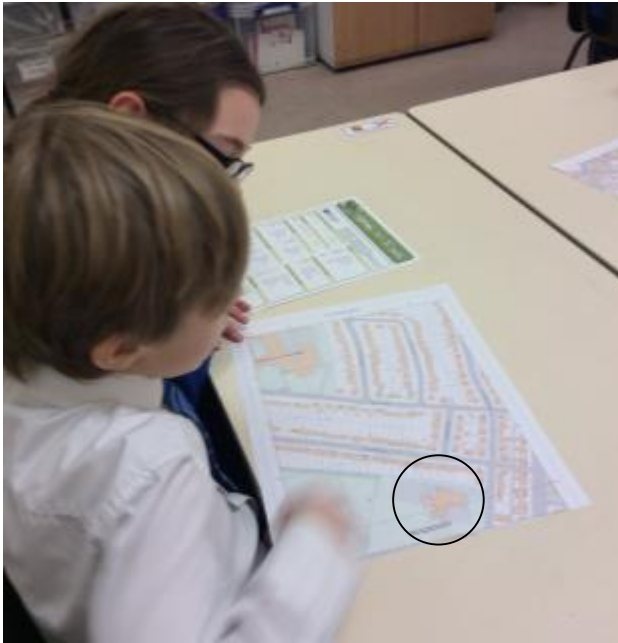
Linear Features	
General line	
General line packed	
Overhead detail	
Electricity transmission line	

Point Features	
Pylon	
Trangulation station	
Point feature	
Site of antiquity	

© Crown Copyright and database right 2020 Ordnance Survey (10002502). FOR SCHOOLS USE ONLY.

North, South, West and East

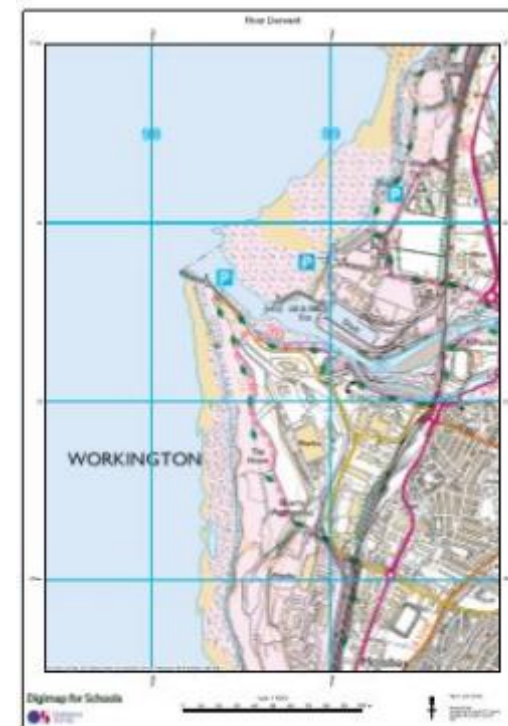
- Each overlapping map includes the school (north, south, east and west)
- The maps are then placed together to create a larger map of the area with the school in the centre.



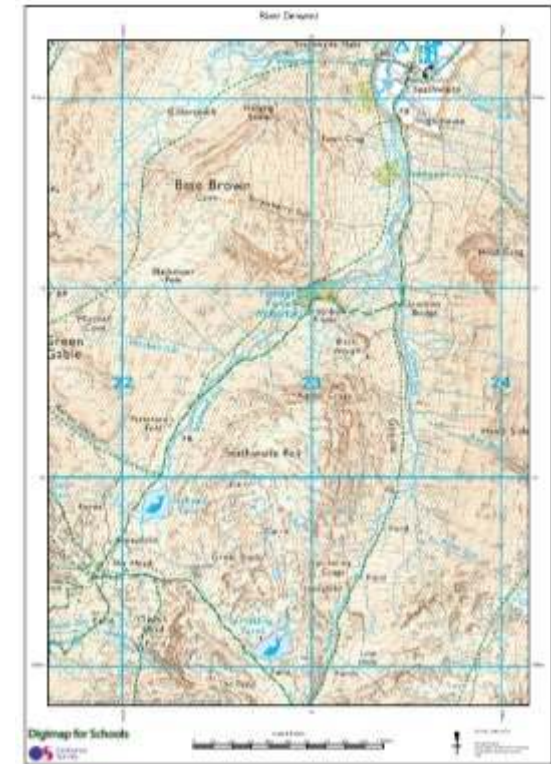
Studying geographical features e.g. rivers



Course of the River Derwent in Cumbria (17 x A3 maps)



Scale 1:10000



Mouth and source of the River Derwent in Cumbria

Map Keys (Legend)

- Each OS map/scale has a different key
- The Historical maps and world maps also have separate keys
- Tick the 'Add Legend' box when printing
- Print these off as PDFs to use alongside the digital maps or with paper maps



Key Stage 1 activities/focus

- Mainly teacher-led activities
- Search by place or postcode
- Identify differences between an aerial photo and a map
- Large-scale map vs aerial photo of the schools grounds, locality
- Physical/natural features vs human/man-made features
- UK 4 countries and capital cities – zoom in to see features
- Add simple markers or labels to online maps
- View and annotate paper copies of the maps
- Know about other digital maps e.g. Google Earth

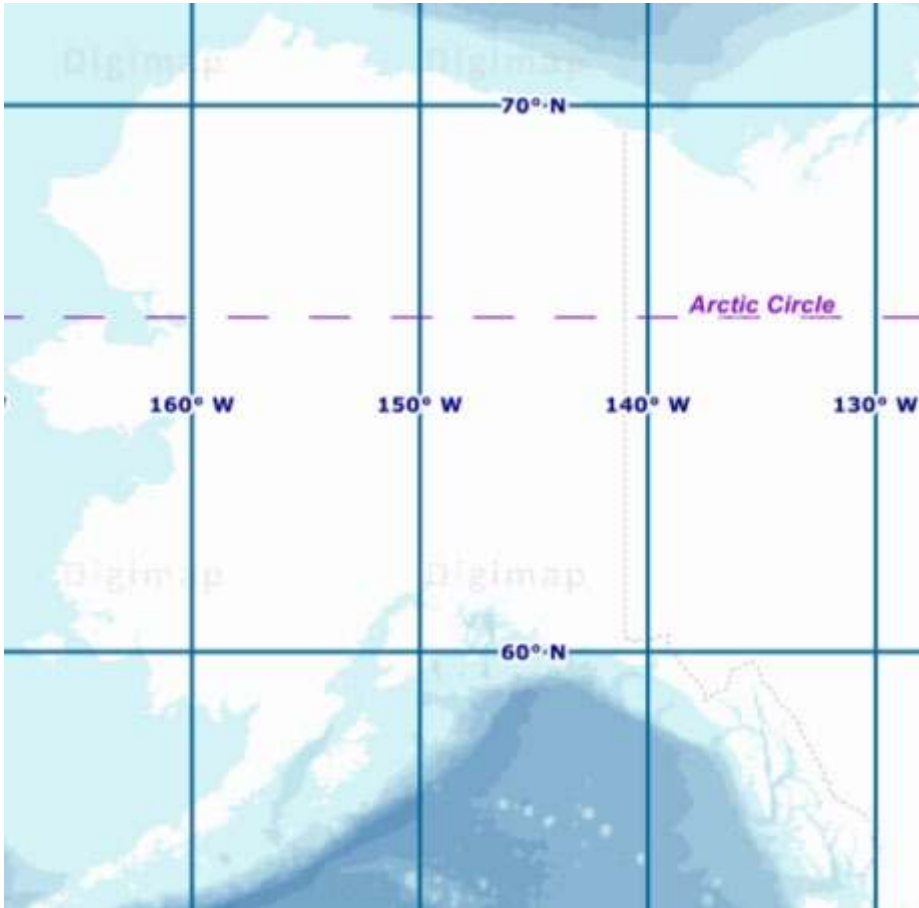
Key Stage 2 activities/focus

- Use more features independently
- Historical maps
- World maps
- Scale
- Measurement tools – distance, area
- Overlays – latitude, longitude, time zones
- Know the difference between OS maps (Britain) and other maps
- Save and print maps. Annotate paper copies of the maps
- Cross-curricular

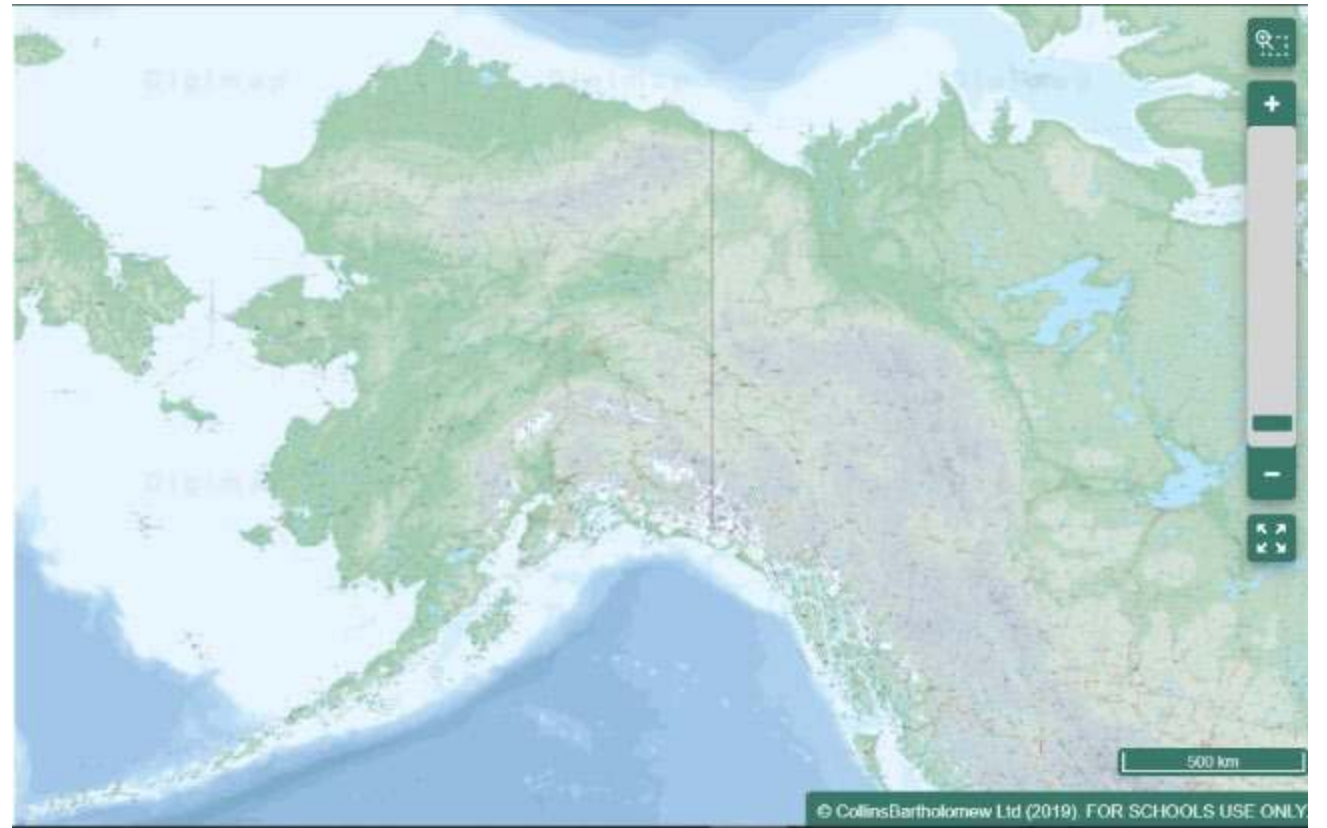
Progression summary (one example)

Year	Activities/focus
Y1	Teacher use of DfS maps and aerial photos on the big screen. Search by postcode and/or place name locally. Label school and zoom out to view its place in the UK. Visit other relevant places e.g. London in map and aerial view. Print off large scale maps and aerial photos of the school grounds. Children match and label features that they recognise.
Y2	Children use DfS to search for their school or house and might add a simple label to their map or aerial photo with help. Maps can be saved within DfS or printed off for the children to add to later. Children use a pre-prepared map of the school grounds to follow a trail or search for an object.
Y3	Draw a basic route on the map e.g. home to school. Add explanatory labels. Save personalised maps within DfS (these can be opened later on any device.) Save and print maps for children to label manually. Introduce historical maps. Zoom out/in to locate places further away e.g. Stone Henge, Roman features etc.
Y4	Add photos to a map. Add other annotations e.g. markers or areas, and larger labels to explain features and places. Locate and measure rivers – local and/or nationally. Use printed off maps to use 4 figure coordinates to locate features. Use scale bars to calculate distances. Use world map to locate Russia and Europe. Use world time zones and major lines of latitude overlays.
Y5	Zoom out and in to locate and identify ports, docks and shipping routes. Use historical maps to demonstrate changes over time. Use printed maps of various scales – understand larger and smaller scale maps. Locate and use help features within the software e.g. help pages, YouTube videos etc. Children print off maps as PDFs. Use latitude and longitude overlays on world map.
Y6	Use a wider range of measuring and annotation tools. Use maps to discover and describe different types of patterns, land use, changes and place-names. Identify relief features e.g. contour lines, hills, mountains, slopes, valleys. Use 6 figure coordinates to locate features on printed maps. Save maps as jpegs and use in other software. Use keys and overlays on the world map.

World Maps



Latitude and Longitude Grid



Slide between Physical and Political maps

Overlays: World Timezones (e.g. Europe/Russia)

The screenshot displays the Digimap for Schools interface. At the top, a search bar contains "Moscow, Russia". To the right of the search bar are icons for search, location, print, zoom, and refresh. The main header reads "Digimap for Schools". On the left, a vertical toolbar contains icons for drawing, layers, home, a star, a ruler, a location pin, a camera, and an information icon. The "Overlays" panel is open, showing a list of options:

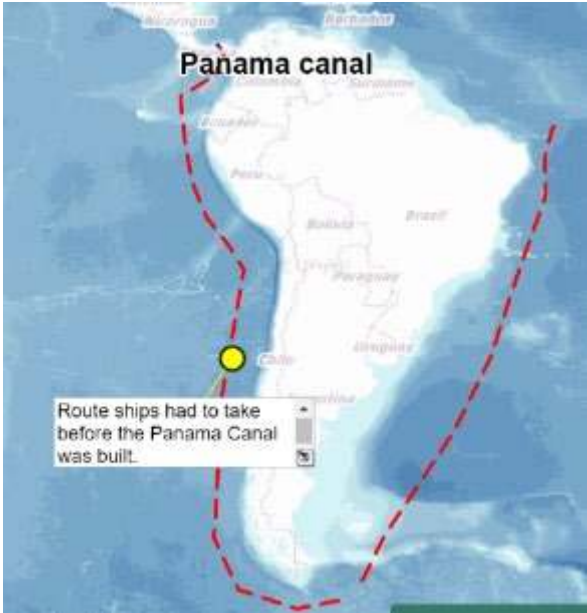
- British National Grid
- Postcodes
- World Place Names
- Major Lines of Latitude
- Latitude/Longitude Grid
- World Timezones

The main map area shows a map of Europe and Russia with a "World Timezones" overlay. The map is color-coded by time zone, with labels such as +1, +2, +3, +4, +5, +6, +7, +8, +9, +10, and +11. A "Map Selector" dropdown menu is visible at the top left of the map area.

Annotating World Maps

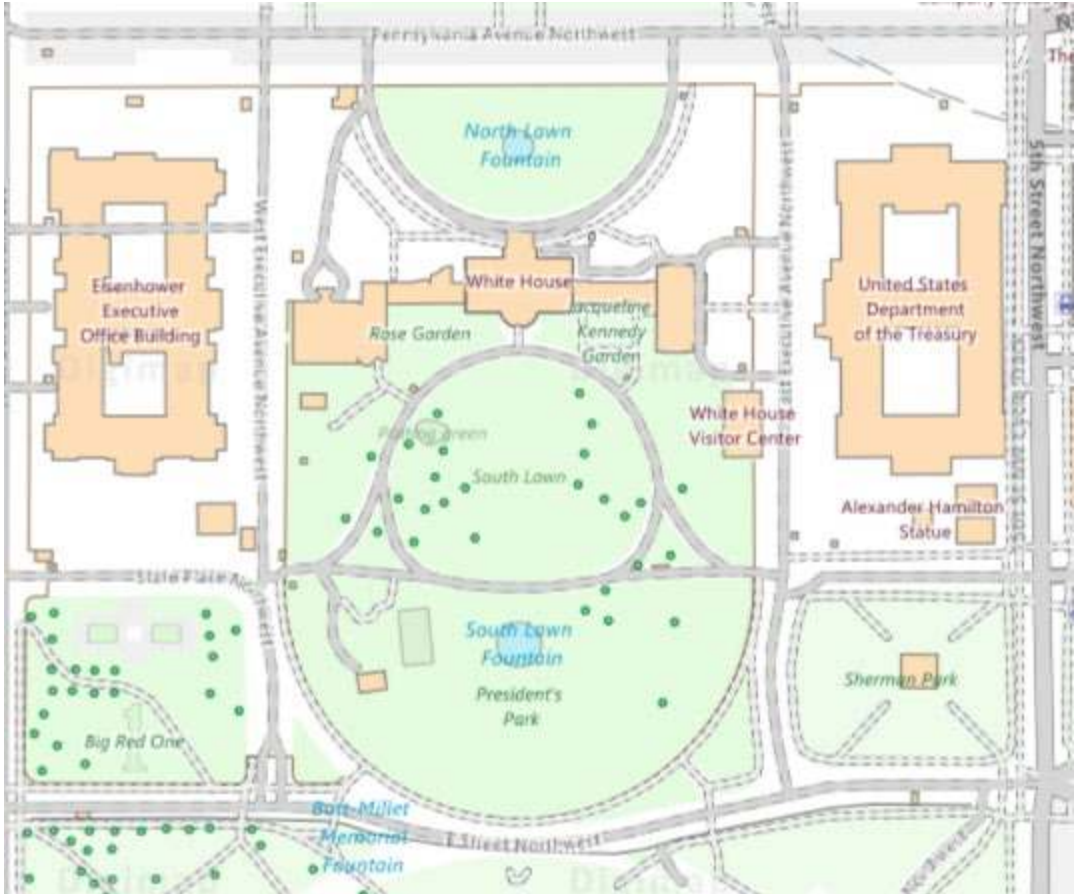


Major Lines of Latitude Overlay

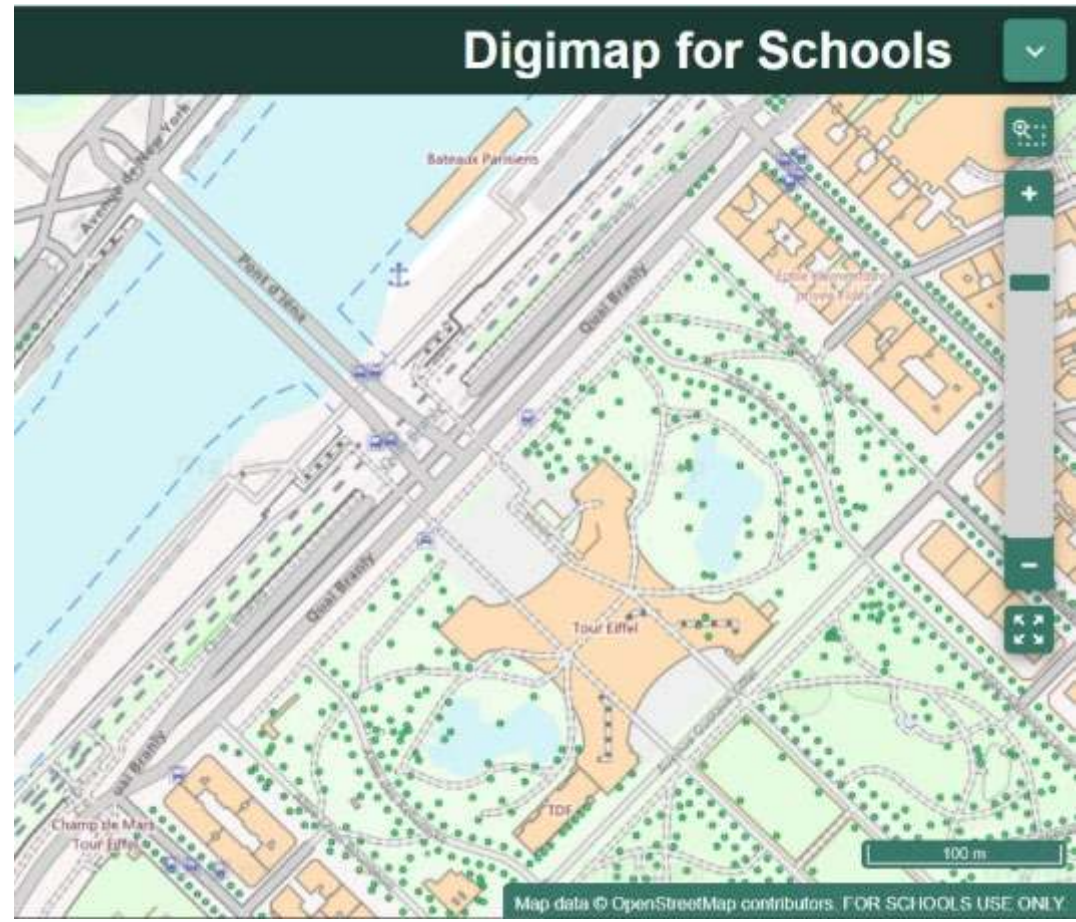


Using Measuring and Annotation Tools

Large-scale city details



Washington DC, USA



Eiffel Tower, Paris

OpenStreetMap data