

# Geography

What do we need?

Years 5 & 6

Lesson 4



The  
**Coombes**  
CE Primary School

**Unit/Lesson focus:** the aim of this unit of learning is to understand aspects of human geography: considering why human settlements developed where they did.

Credit – [www.twinkl.co.uk](http://www.twinkl.co.uk)

**Unit Learning Objectives:**

**L.O.: To explain what settlers need**

**L.O.: To explain how electricity is generated and distributed in the UK**

**L.O.: To explain renewable sources of electricity**

**L.O.: To explain where our food comes from**

# Lesson 4

## L.O.: To explain where our food comes from

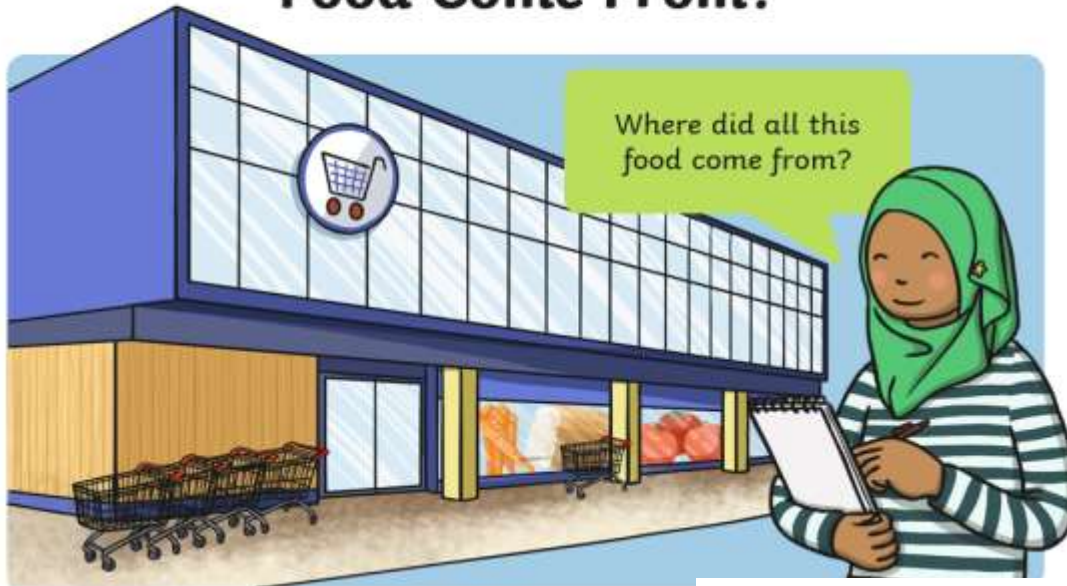
**I can explain where our food comes from.**

**I can also say what food miles are.**

**I can even use digital maps to calculate food miles.**



# Where Does Our Food Come From?



## Food Miles



What do you think food miles are?

Why should we worry about them?

# Task:

## Grab some food!

- Go to your kitchen cupboards and grab 10 items – could be anything from a packet of pasta to teabags!
- Look at the label and establish where this food comes from.
- Print out worksheet attached with this lesson and move onto the next slide for further instructions.

# Calculating Food Miles



**Food Miles**

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Food Item	Where It Comes From	Food Miles

How far has all the food in your shopping travelled?

It's about 25,000 miles around the Earth. Has your shopping travelled that far?



twinkl planit Geography KS2 Progression: Year 4 | Week 52 | Food Miles



Use this [website](#) to work out how far it has travelled to your home as the crow flies (that means in a straight line).



# Does Fewer Miles Always Mean Better for the Environment?

What do you think?

Are you surprised by this?



- During the UK winter, lettuces in Spain are grown outside.
- In the UK, lettuces are grown in the field in summer and in greenhouses in winter.
- Greenhouses use a lot of energy for heating and lighting – causing more CO<sub>2</sub> than driving the lettuce by truck from Spain to the UK.

Fresh UK broccoli released less CO<sub>2</sub> than fresh Spanish broccoli, but freezing the UK broccoli increased the CO<sub>2</sub> to the same level as the Spanish produce.



# What Are the Benefits of Importing Food?



Importing foods means we have a varied, healthy diet so people get less ill.

Importing food protects us against the effect of a poor UK harvest.

Importing food provides a market for foreign farmers' produce, boosting the foreign economies.

Importing foods means supermarkets can negotiate lower prices, which means we pay less for our food.

Foods that only grow in certain seasons in the UK are available all year round.



# Additional Task:

- Research the origins of a school dinner. Where does each ingredient come from? Using a large map, show the journey that each item might have made to reach the school.
- One possible alternative to importing produce is to eat as much indigenous (belonging to a locality) seasonal produce as possible. Research what produce is available at different times of the year. Which foods cannot be grown or produced in the UK?

# Plenary:

## What Do You Think?



Should we import food from abroad?

What are the benefits?

What are the risks?

# Reflection:

## Lesson 4

### L.O.: To explain where our food comes from

I can explain where our food comes from.

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