Year 4 The USA and Mexico

*Locating countries and capitals of North America on maps and states of the USA.

*Comparing the physical and human geography of Mazatlán in Mexico to Southampton.

Exploring migration from Mexico to the USA.

Respect, Believe, Achieve

Topographic map of the USA

As a Geographer, what do I already know?

♦ In Year 3, we compared land-use in Southampton city centre and the New Forest.
♦ In our previous Year 4 units, we learnt about climate and biomes.

Key Words	
Climate	Climate is the average measurements of temperature, wind, humidity, snow, and rain in a place over the course of years. Climate is like the weather, but over a long time.
Flora	Flora is all the plant life present in a particular region or time, generally the naturally occurring (indigenous) native plants.
Fauna	Fauna is all of the animal life present in a particular region or time.
Human migration	Any movement of people, either temporary or permanent, from one place to another. Usually, however, the term is used only for the permanent change of residence—meaning for at least a year—by an individual or group.
Population	A drowned river valley in a coastal lowland area. Occurs near or at the mouth of a river, where the tide meets the current and the fresh and salt waters mix.
Land Use	When an area is used for a specific purpose to meet the wants and needs of people. There are five main types of land use: residential, agricultural, recreational, transportation, and commercial.
Topography	Topography describes the physical features of an area of land. These features typically include natural formations such as mountains, rivers, lakes, and valleys. Manmade features such as roads, dams, and cities may also be included. Topography often records the various elevations of an area using a topographical map.

Key Skills

Knowledge Location

- I can locate many of the world's countries, focusing on North America, using a map or atlas.

Understanding Place

I can describe and compare similarities and differences between some regions in Europe (include the UK) and North America (Mexico)
- I can understand how the human and physical characteristics of one region in Europe (UK) and North America (Mexico) are connected and make it special.
- I can describe and compare the physical and human characteristics of some regions in North America (E.g. Mexico and the USA).

Enquiry and Skills

- I can use an atlas or map (scaled 1:2500 – 1:10000) with four-figure grid references to locate some countries and cities in North America.
- I can use a map to locate some states of the USA.
- I can use the scale bar or 1 km grid to estimate distance.
- I can use the zoom function on digital maps to explore places at different scales and add annotations.
- I can present information gathered using a range of graphs.

As a Geographer, here's the knowledge, skills and understanding I will have by the end of the unit:

1. I will be able to use an atlas or map to locate some countries in North America and their capital cities.
2. I will then be able to calculate their distance from the UK using the scale bar.
3. I will be able to use digital maps to locate some states of the USA and use the zoom function to compare the differing topography of these states and add annotations.
4. I will be able to explain how Mazatlán and Southampton compare in terms of their physical geography (climate, flora, fauna, topography) and use graphs to show this.
5. I will be able to explain how Mazatlán and Southampton compare in terms of their human geography (population, types of settlement and land use, economic activity including trade links, and their cultures—customs, languages, and religions) and use graphs to show this. I will also be able to offer some reasons for these similarities and differences.
6. I will have an understanding of the migration and border tensions between Mexico and the UK and will be able to offer reasons why migration to the USA occurs and its impact on the USA and Mexico.

Key information—What do I need to know?

- How to use a scale bar to calculate distance.

- How to use the zoom function on digital maps, what typography is and how to switch to the topographical map view on Google Maps.

- What the climate is like in Mazatlán —Sub-tropical, with a quite warm winter from December to February, and a hot summer from May to November, within which there is a rainy and muggy period from July to mid-October. From July to October, in the rainy period, the humidity increases and the heat becomes decidedly unpleasant.
In winter, in some years the temperature never drops below 10 °C (50 °F), but every now and then, a mass of cold air from the United States can bring some cold at night.
On the hottest days, from June to October, the temperature can reach 37/38 °C (99/100 °F).

- The flora of Mazatlán are tabachines, eucalyptus, laurels, and poplars. Its fauna includes birds like ducks, herons, and pelicans. There are armadillos, raccoons, and marine species such as whales, turtles and dolphins. White-tailed deer is one of the main animals that characterizes Mazatlán.

- Tourism and fishing are the main industries in Mazatlán. The city houses the main beach resorts, and has the second largest fishing fleet in Mexico. The most processed seafood products in the city are shrimp and tuna.

- Reasons why Mexicans want to migrate to the USA and the impact it has. Link for parents and teachers:
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=c9BQaRwLMYw

White-tailed deer

Average High/Low Temperature: Mazatlan

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
High °C	25	25	26	27	29	31	32	32	32	32	29	26
Low °C	15	15	16	18	20	25	25	25	25	24	19	16

Legend: High C, Low C, High F, Low F

Average Rainfall: Mazatlan

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
mm	10	10	10	10	10	70	130	200	150	50	10	10
Days	3	1	1	0	0	2	7	8	7	3	2	1

Legend: Average rainfall, Average rain days

HIGHEST MONTHS

Most rainfall
AUGUST

Hottest month
JULY

Coldest month
JANUARY

MONTHLY AVERAGES

Month	Temp
October	28°C
November	24°C
December	21°C
January	20°C
February	20°C
March	21°C
April	23°C
May	25°C
June	28°C
July	29°C
August	29°C
September	29°C

Population in Urban Area, now

464,234

World: **1295th**   North America: **149th**   Mexico: **40th**

Population in City Area, 2018-11-03

381,583

World: **798th**   North America: **35th**   Mexico: **26th**

Mazatlan Urban Area Population Graph

Legend: Total population