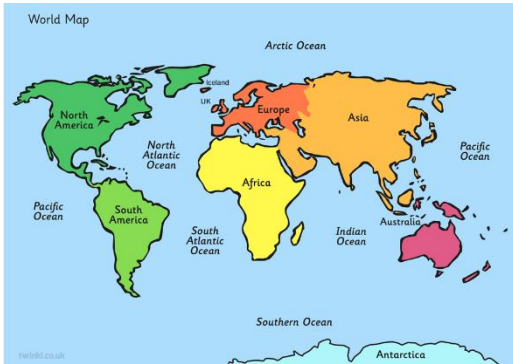


Iceland Knowledge Organiser



Where in the World is Iceland?



Volcanoes

Iceland is a volcanic island. It sits on tectonic plates, which means it has active volcanoes. There are an estimated 30 active volcanoes today.



Geothermal Activity

Because Iceland has volcanic activity underground, there is lots of geothermal activity. This means that the heating of houses and electricity can be generated using it. It also means that there are heated outdoor swimming pools and the famous Blue Lagoon, even when the weather is freezing.



Glaciers

Iceland has approximately 269 glaciers. A glacier is a large area of thick ice that remains frozen from one year to the next. Glaciers also slowly flow over the land.



Aurora Borealis (Northern Lights)

Iceland is a good place to see the Aurora Borealis. These are natural light displays, that happen when particles from the sun collide with the Earth's gases. They are most visible when you are near the Arctic.

Trade and Economy

Iceland has a very small population of approximately 400,000 people. In contrast, the UK has a population of approximately 70 million people.

Iceland's main economy comes from tourism, fishing and making aluminium.

Location, Location, Location

Iceland:

- is in the Northern Hemisphere;
- has a small island in the Arctic Circle;
- has the latitude and longitude measurements of 65° 00' N and 18° 00' W;
- is in the same time zone as the UK;
- is 7,227 km from the equator.

Climate

Biomes: deciduous forest and tundra

Climate Zone: polar

Summers are cool with long daylight (midnight sun), while winters are cold with short days and chances to see the Northern Lights.

Vocabulary

Geothermal - is heat that comes from inside the Earth.

Active volcano - a volcano that has erupted recently and could erupt again in the future.

Dormant volcano - a volcano that hasn't erupted for a long time, but could still erupt.

Extinct volcano - a volcano that won't erupt again.

Lava Field - a large flat area covered by hardened, cooled down lava.

Lagoon - a calm, shallow pool.

Tectonic plate - giant, slow moving slabs of rock that make up the Earth's surface.

Population - the number of people who live somewhere.

Economy how a country is doing in terms of making and selling things.

Tourism - when people travel away from home for fun or adventures.