



# Year 3

## Continent Focus: Europe Knowledge Organiser

### Is Italy a world away from our local area?



Key Vocabulary	Key Questions and Facts		
<p><b>Country:</b> a place with its own government, <u>occupying</u> a particular territory. Italy: a country in southern Europe</p> <p><b>Europe:</b> a continent that is between Asia and the Atlantic Ocean and is north of the Mediterranean Sea.</p> <p><b>Rome:</b> the capital city of Italy.</p> <p><b>Continent:</b> a large solid area of land. Earth has seven continents.</p> <p><b>Population:</b> the number of people living in a certain place.</p> <p><b>Mountain Range:</b> long chains or groups of mountains.</p> <p><b>Cuisine:</b> a style of cooking shared by a group of people.</p> <p><b>Currency:</b> the name of the money that a particular country uses</p> <p><b>Climate:</b> the long-term pattern of weather in a particular area.</p> <p><b>Peninsula:</b> a piece of land that is almost entirely surrounded by water but is connected to the mainland on one side.</p> <p><b>Mediterranean:</b> a large sea that separates Europe from Africa.</p> <p><b>Economy:</b> the way people spend money and the way people make money.</p> <p><b>Democracy:</b> 'rule by the people'. In a democracy, like the UK, the people elect the government and have a say in how it is run.</p> <p><b>Community:</b> a group of people living in a particular area.</p> <p><b>Leaning Tower of Pisa:</b> a freestanding bell tower of a cathedral.</p>	<p><b>Where in the world is Europe and what is it like?</b></p> <p>Europe is one of the seven continents. It is located completely in the northern hemisphere and mainly in the eastern hemisphere.</p> <p>Europe borders onto the Arctic Ocean in the North, the Atlantic Ocean in the west and the Mediterranean Sea in the South.</p>	<p><b>Where in Europe is Italy and what is it like?</b></p> <p>Italy is a country in Southern Europe. The country is located on a peninsula in the Mediterranean Sea. Italy is a boot-shaped peninsula that juts out of southern Europe into the Adriatic Sea, Tyrrhenian Sea, Mediterranean Sea, and other waters.</p> <p>The capital city of Italy is Rome and some famous cities are Milan, Venice, Naples and Florence. Italy has 20 regions. The main native language is Italian.</p> <p>Italy borders six countries: France, Austria, Switzerland, Slovenia, Vatican City and San Marino. A flight to Italy's capital city Rome takes roughly 2 hours.</p>	
	<p><b>Why has the Leaning Tower of Pisa become such an iconic landmark today?</b></p> <p>The Leaning Tower of Pisa is a building in Pisa, Italy. It is famous because it is not vertical. The tower was once leaning more and more to the ground, but recently much restoration work has been done to stop it from falling over completely.</p>	<p><b>How are Italy and the UK similar/different?</b></p> <p>Although Italy and England are definitely two different countries, they share some similarities such as some geographical aspect, culture and customs. However, despite the differences between the two countries, both of them has its own unique history which changed how they look today.</p>	<p><b>Useful Websites:</b></p> <p><a href="#">BBC Bitesize: A Day in an Italian school</a></p> <p><a href="#">Geography: School Learning Zone</a></p> <p><a href="#">National Geographic Kids</a></p>
	<b>Key information</b>		
	<p><b>Europe</b></p> 	<p><b>Italy</b></p> 	
	<p>There are 50 countries in Europe. It has a total population of approximately 741 million people. The European part of Russia covers more area than any other country. The three largest countries are: Russia, Ukraine and France. There are more than 200 languages spoken in Europe; the most common language is English. Europe is the second smallest continent.</p>	<p>Italy has more than 7,600 km/ 4,722 miles of coastline as the peninsula is located for a large part in the Mediterranean sea. Italy is popular for its many picturesque ports and sandy beaches. Italy has two bigger islands Sicily and Sardegna and many smaller islands such as Capri, Ischia and Elba.</p>	

## Additional information



- Italy is a country in southern Europe
- It borders several countries, including France, Switzerland, Austria, Slovenia, The Vatican City and San Marino.
- It also has a large coastline on the Mediterranean Sea.
- Italy covers an area of 301,340sq.km
- 62 million people live in Italy.
- It is easy to recognise Italy on any map as it looks like a high-heeled boot kicking a ball. The 'ball' is the island of Sicily.

## Overview



## Physical Geography

- The Northern region of Italy is the most mountainous. Its Dolomite region is part of the Alps and is popular for Alpine skiing.
- The highest peak is Monte Bianco (Mount Blanc) which is 4,807m high.
- The north of the country contains large lakes, for example Lake Como and Lake Garda.
- The longest river in Italy is the Po River, which is about 405 miles long.
- Aside from the mainland, Italy contains two large islands: Sicily and Sardinia, and many smaller islands.



## Comparison with the UK

- Both Italy and the UK are in Europe. UK is in the Northern Europe and Italy is in Southern Europe.
- Due to its more Southerly position, Italy is warmer than the UK. On average Rome is 7°C hotter than London.
- Italy is slightly larger than the UK but slightly more people live in the UK.
- London has a much larger population than Rome, 8.4 million compared to 2.9 million.
- Italy has higher mountains than the UK. Mt. Blanc is 4,807m high. The highest in the UK is Ben Nevis, at 1,345m.
- The UK has no active volcanoes, whereas Italy has three (Vesuvius, Etna and Stromboli).

