



About this topic

The objective of this investigation is to take pupils beyond that with which they may be familiar and introduce them to different aspects of Florida's physical and human geography.

The so called 'sunshine state' has the Atlantic on one side and the Gulf of Mexico on the other. The most famous city in the state is Miami and it is also home to world famous beaches, theme parks and space stations.

Because of its huge physical and human diversity the state of Florida provides an excellent location and context for pupils to explore and apply key concepts such as climate, economic activity, environmental management and sustainability.

Big Questions

What makes the Magic Kingdom so magical?

What brought the Mayan civilisation to an end?

Why do geographers feel that Florida is the best example of a peninsula?

Why was the east coast of Florida specially selected for space launches?

Would sea turtles be better without humans?

Is it easier to live in a warmer climate?

How would you survive in a hurricane?

Map of Florida



Key Vocabulary



Axis - An imaginary line in which a body rotates

Climate - the weather conditions over a period of time

Conservation - A careful preservation and protection of something

Endangered - When a species is seriously at risk of extinction

Equator - a line dividing the Earth into Southern and Northern hemispheres.

Evacuation - the action of evacuating a person or place

Hurricane - a storm with a violent wind

Latitude - the angular distance of a place north or south of the Earth's equator

Maya civilisation - One of the most dominant indigenous societies of Mesoamerica (a term used to describe Mexico and Central America before the 16th century Spanish conquest).

Peninsula- A portion of land nearly surrounded by water and connected with a larger body

Orbit -the curved path of a spacecraft around a star, planet or moon

Region - an area, especially part of a country or the world, having definable characteristics.

State - A nation or territory considered as an organised political community under one government

Prominent Landmarks



All American space flights since 1968 have been launched from the world famous Kennedy Space Centre in Florida



The Magic Kingdom is the most popular theme park in the world with an average of 53,000 visitors a day.