

Key Vocabulary

Year 3 – Knowledge Organiser

Continent (Europe)	A continent is a large solid area of land. Earth has seven continents . Italy is in the continent Europe (the same continent as England).
Equator	The Equator is an imaginary circle around Earth. It divides Earth into two equal parts: the Northern Hemisphere and the Southern Hemisphere. It runs east and west halfway between the North and South poles.
Southern and Northern Hemisphere	The Northern Hemisphere is the section of the Earth that is north of the Equator. The section of the Earth that is south of the Equator is called the Southern Hemisphere .
Contour lines	A line drawn on a map connecting points of equal height.
Longitude and Latitude	Latitude and longitude are lines on a map used to describe the location of any place on Earth. Lines of latitude run in an east-west direction across Earth. Lines of longitude run in a north-south direction.



Map of Italy



Italian Geography

Surrounding Seas	The boot shape of Italy means much of the country is surrounded by water. The Adriatic Sea, Mediterranean Sea, Ionian Sea and Tyrrhenian Sea all surrounded Italy.
Surrounding Countries	The north of Italy has four bordering countries: they are France, Switzerland, Austria and Slovenia.
The Alps Mountain Range	The Alps are a big stretch of Mountains that runs from France all the way along to Austria. Some of the Mountains in the Alps are in Northern Italy.

Key Italian Cities

Islands	Italy has many islands in the seas surrounding the mainlands. The largest of these Islands are Sicily and Sardinia.	Rome	Rome is the Capital City of Italy. Home to many Roman ruins including the Colosseum!
Volcanoes	Lots of Italy is volcanic. Some of Italy's volcanoes are still active, which means that they could still erupt. On the island of Sicily a volcano called Mount Etna is still active. Mount Vesuvius is a volcano near Naples that is also still active.	Venice	Venice is actually built on more than 100 small islands meaning it has no roads- just canals! People use Gondolas (a type of boat) to get around.
Climate	Italy is in south Europe, closer to the equator than England, meaning through the summer months it is generally warmer than the UK. It is also drier, with less rainfall. The winters are cooler.	Florence	This city is known for its arts museums and historic churches. Many of the great Italian artists such as Michelangelo or Leonardo da Vinci once lived in this city.
		Pisa	Home to the Leaning Tower of Pisa!