A Journey Through France

In this topic, you are going to learn lots about France. You will be looking at the human and physical geography of France through **'MAPPING'** and **'PLACE'**, and using the **'MEDIA'** of paint to create your own masterpieces. You will also be looking at French cuisine and **'DESIGN, MAKE and EVALUATE'** your own bread. We will be answering the following questions along the way...

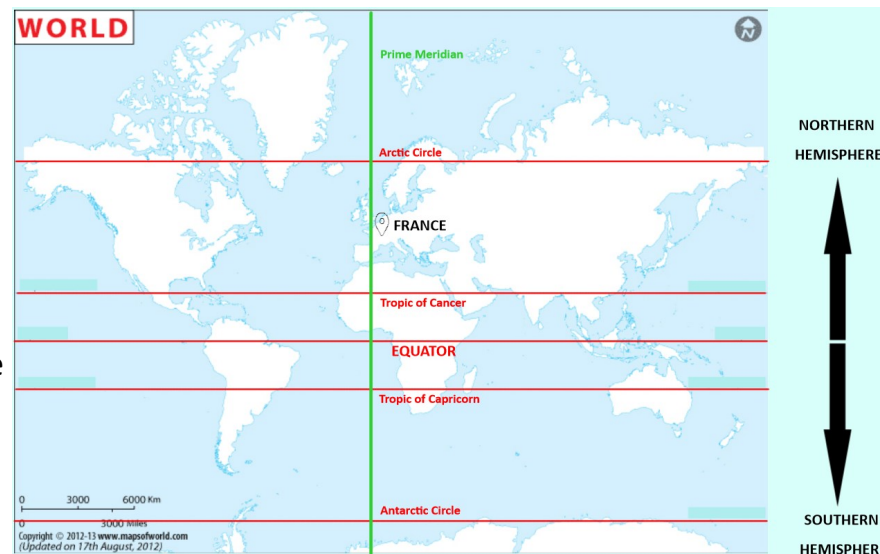## Where is France?

You will discover that France is in Europe in the northern hemisphere of the world. You can locate it on a map by using lines of latitude and longitude. Key lines of latitude are the Equator, the Tropics of Cancer and Capricorn and the Arctic Circle and Antarctic Circle.

How can I get there?

It is much easier to get to France than it used to be and depending on what part you want to visit, there are a variety of ways to get there (Euro Tunnel, train, plane, ferry...even hovercraft).

You will learn that France has so much to offer: from skiing resorts to sunny beaches; tiny, picturesque villages to huge, vibrant cities. **Whatever the settlement, they all have reason for being where they are.** For example, Paris grew as a major city because it was on a trade route - the River Seine.

We use **different maps** to help find out about places: thematic maps (climate, population, etc); relief maps (mountains, rivers, etc) as well as using route maps to help you get there.
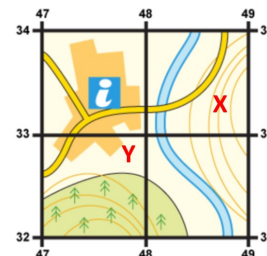
What is Paris like?

You will learn that Paris is one of the most visited cities in the world. It has 130 museums/galleries, countless restaurants, bistros and numerous beautiful pieces of architecture. The Louvre gallery is the most visited gallery in the world and the famous Pointillism artist **Georges Seurat** comes from Paris.

In order to locate places on some maps, reading **6-figured grid references** is an necessary skill. Remember, X comes before Y or...

Along the corridor ⟶ X'   and then   'Up the stairs ↑ Y'

Is everywhere in France like Paris?

Far from it...just look in the box above! We can find almost the exact opposite to Paris if we visit some of the beautiful villages in the Provence region. Moustiere-St-Marie is one such village and is a very different place to Paris. We can **compare** the two by looking at the physical landscape; number of people that live there; the things you can do there and even the climate.

Not far from Moustiere-St-Marie is the wonderful city Aix-En-Provence. This is the birth place of another French artist, **Paul Cezanne**. He, like Seurat, was famous for starting a particular painting movement called 'post-impressionism'.

What can I eat while I'm there?

Unlike Paris, which has all different types of food imported from everywhere all year round, Moustiere-St-Marie relies a lot on **food which is grown nearby and is in season**. This doesn't mean you will go hungry though, Moustiere-St-Marie has some lovely local produce and specialities such as anchovies, goats' cheese, olives, lavender and locally grown herbs to name a few.

A staple of nearly every meal though, is bread—YUM! YUM! After **designing** your own bread recipe, maybe using some of the local ingredients listed above, you will learn how to **make** bread and then **evaluate** how well you did by tasting it and getting feedback from others...especially the teachers!