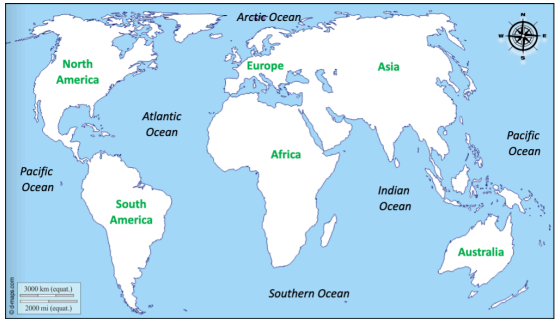
Year 5
Oceans

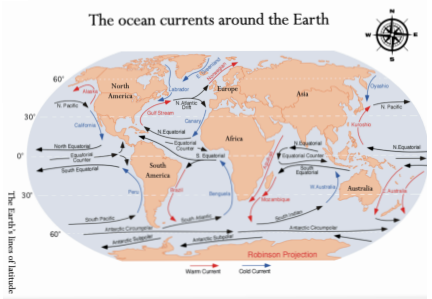
Key vocabulary	
ocean	A body of water which is much larger than a sea.
sea	A body of water which is smaller than an ocean. It is a part of the ocean that is nearly enclosed by land.
north pole	The point on the Earth's surface that is the furthest north.
south pole	The point on the Earth's surface that is the furthest south.
salinity	The amount of salt contained in something such as seawater.
maritime	Human activity carried out at sea such as trade or travel
ocean current	The movement of water from one place to another.
gyres	Where ocean currents meet. These currents run in giant circular loops.
hurricane	Powerful storms that occur in tropical areas of Earth.
wind stream	A current of strong wind that carries air.
fossil fuel	Fuels, such as gas, coal and oil, that were formed underground from plant and animal remains millions of years ago.



The five oceans cover more than 70% of our planet which means Earth has more water than land.

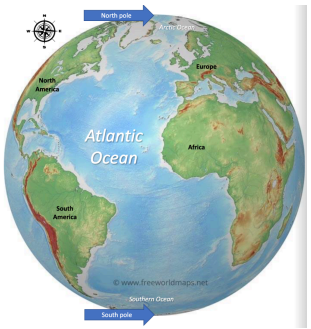
The 5 oceans are connected. Sometimes geographers call this the world ocean.

The ocean and seas regulate our climate.



Ocean currents moving towards the Equator are cold currents. Currents flowing away from the Equator are warm currents.

A sea is a part of the ocean that is nearly enclosed by land. The North Sea is East of the United Kingdom. The Atlantic Ocean is West of the United Kingdom



The Atlantic Ocean reaches north to the Arctic Ocean and south to the Southern Ocean. The closer you get to the Artic and Southern oceans, the colder the Atlantic water becomes.

Sea levels are rising because of fossil fuels. When they are burned by humans, it causes ice to melt in the south and north poles. This adds more water to the seas.

Humans affect the ocean by:

- Spilling oil
- Accidentally capturing other marine life in nets
- Rubbish and plastic pollution
- Take water from seas