

# The United Kingdom

What are the key geographical features of the UK and my region?

**Lesson 2:** What are the key settlements of the UK and counties of England?



[www.grammarsaurus.co.uk](http://www.grammarsaurus.co.uk)

# Geographical knowledge and concepts



Sir Halford Mackinder

## Geographical knowledge



**Locational knowledge** ✓



**Place knowledge** ✓



**Human and physical geography**



**Geographical skills and fieldwork**

## Geographical concepts



**Place** ✓



**Space**



**Scale** ✓



**Physical and human processes**



**Interdependence**



**Environmental impact**



**Sustainable development**



**Cultural awareness and diversity** ✓



# What are the key geographical features of the UK and my region?



Sir Halford Mackinder

**What are the countries of the UK and the regions of England?**

**Lesson 1:** What are the countries of the UK and the regions of England?

**What are the key geographical features of the UK?**

**Lesson 2:** What are the key settlements of the UK and counties of England?

**Lesson 3:** What are the human features and landmarks of the UK?

**Lesson 4:** What are the physical features of the UK?

**How can I use maps to understand a place?**

**Lesson 5:** How can I use compasses, keys and symbols to read a map?

**Lesson 6:** How can I use four-figure grid references to read a map?

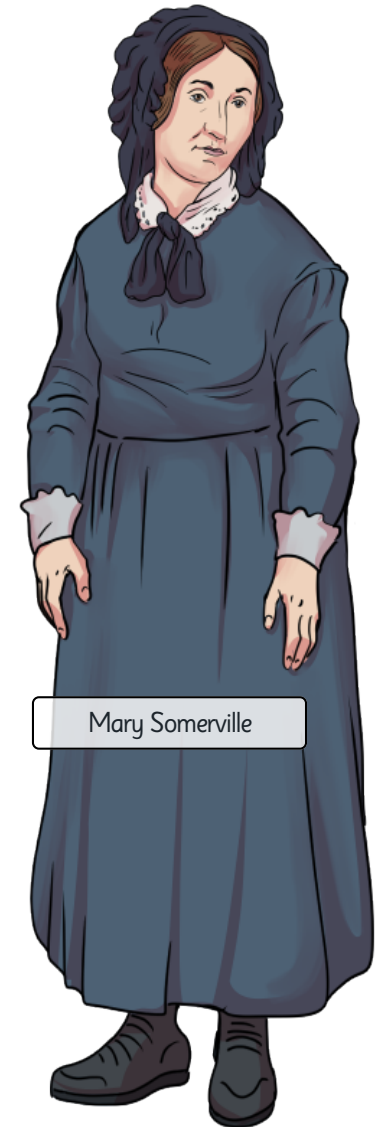
**How can I use maps to learn more about the UK?**

**Lesson 7:** What are the key topographical features found in the UK?

**What are the key characteristics of my region?**

**Lesson 8:** What are the key human and physical features of my region?

**Lesson 9:** How can I create a sketch map of my local area?



Mary Somerville



# Key vocabulary for this lesson



**county**

– an area of land within a region



**rural**

– an area of countryside with few homes and buildings



**settlement**

– a place where people live



**town**

– a settlement which is often smaller than a city but bigger than a village



**urban**

– a built-up area with many homes and buildings such as a town or city



**village**

– a small settlement with a small number of houses for a few hundred people



# Locational knowledge and place knowledge



Hello! My name is **Allisandra** and I'm a **geographer**.


I enjoy finding out **where places are** and learning **what those places are like**. By studying **settlements**, I can see how places are different and why.

Knowing where places are and what makes them special helps me **compare areas, understand how people live** and **plan for the future**.



# What kinds of settlements are there in the UK?



Over thousands of years, people have built **settlements**  in different places. The earliest settlements were **small**, and people chose to live **near rivers, the sea** or in areas where the **land was good for growing crops**. Over time, these settlements have grown.

There are **three main kinds of settlement**:



village 



town 



city 



# What is a village?





Place



Scale



Hi! My name is **Charlotte**. I live in a **village** , which is a **rural settlement** . I love living here because I enjoy being in the **countryside**. There are many farms near my village.

**My village has:**



☒ a small number of houses

☒ quiet roads

☒ a post office and shop

☒ a pub

☒ a church

☒ a primary school



# What is a town?





Place



Scale



Hi, I'm **Rina**. I live in a **town** , which is an **urban**  **settlement**. I love living here because there are lots of **facilities** I can use, such as shops and the leisure centre. It's not too busy, and I'm also close to the **countryside**.

**My town has:**



☒ lots of houses

☒ busy roads

☒ shops, restaurants, pubs and hotels

☒ places of worship

☒ a secondary school

☒ a swimming pool

☒ a supermarket



# What is a city?





Place



Scale



Hi! I'm **Tanvir**! I live in a **city**  which is a large **urban**  **settlement**. I love living in a city because it is always **busy and exciting**. There are many places to visit and things to do.

**My town has:**



☒ a cathedral and other places of worship

☒ lots of buses and trains

☒ museums and galleries

☒ parks

☒ shopping centres

☒ restaurants, cafes and bars

☒ office blocks

☒ different houses, including blocks of flats

☒ warehouses and factories

☒ a university



# Let's discuss



**Discuss** the questions below with your learning partner.  
Be ready to **share your feedback** with the class.

- What kind of settlement  are you in?
- What are the features of your settlement?

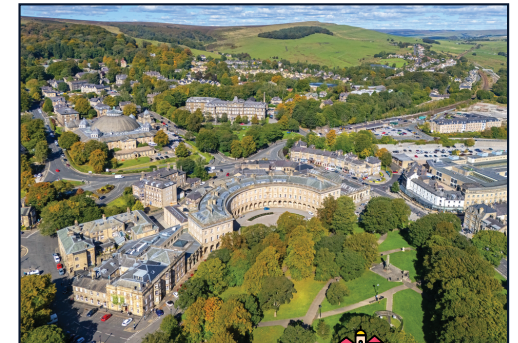
**Use these sentence starters to help you:**

“We are in...”

“Our settlement has...”



village 



town 



city 



# What are the key settlements of the UK?



Larger towns and cities, including capital cities, are often thought of as **key settlements**  of the UK. This is because they are **important places** where lots of people live, work and study. Often, they are where **transport services connect** many other places and where **important decisions are made**.



**London** is the **largest city** in the UK with a population of nearly **10 million people**.



# Stop and jot



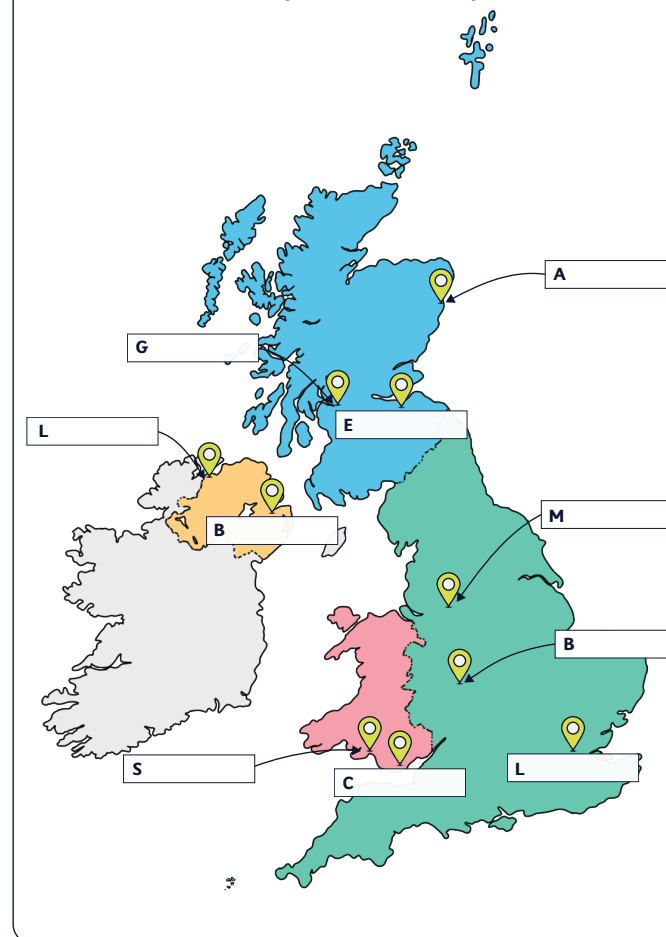
Use your **atlas** to help you **label some of the key settlements** in the UK on your **stop and jot worksheet**.

To find key settlements on a map, look for text which is **bold** or written with a **larger font**.



## Stop and jot

Use your atlas to help you complete the names of the key settlements of the UK on the map below.

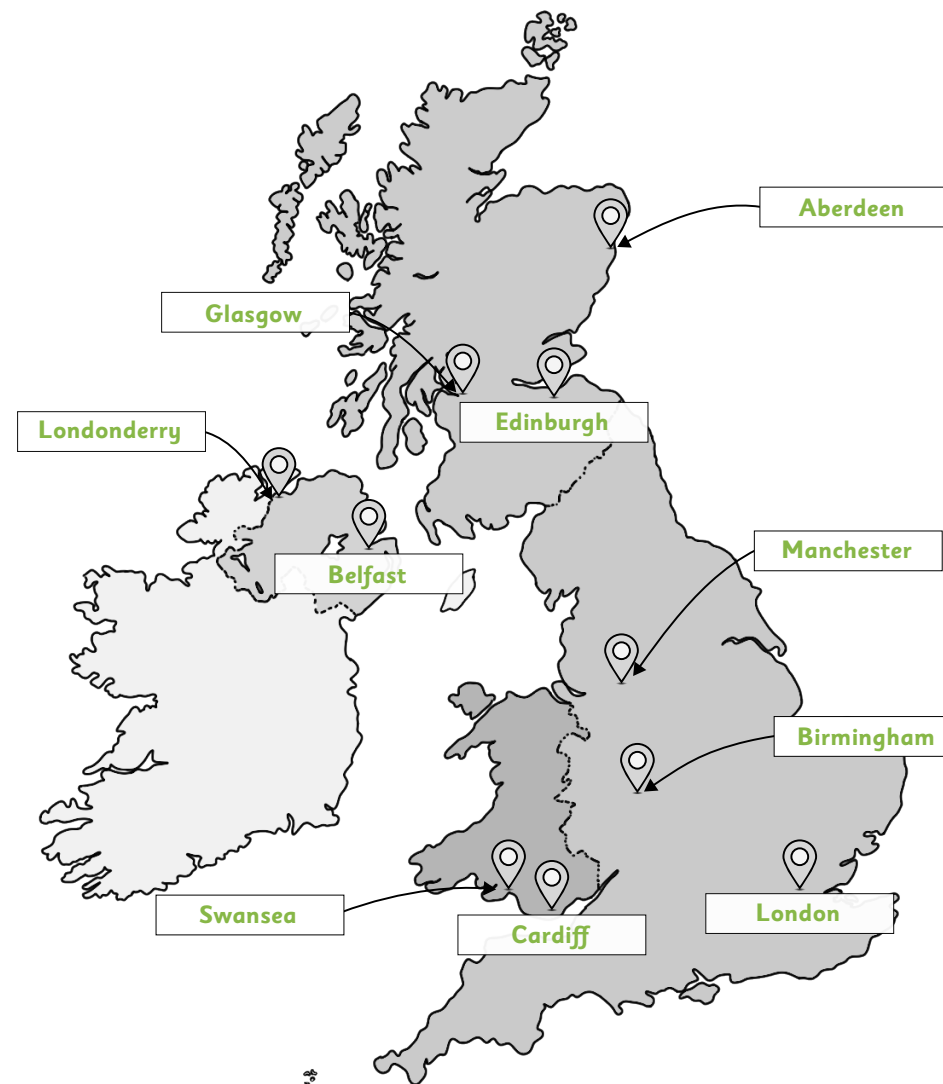


# Stop and jot

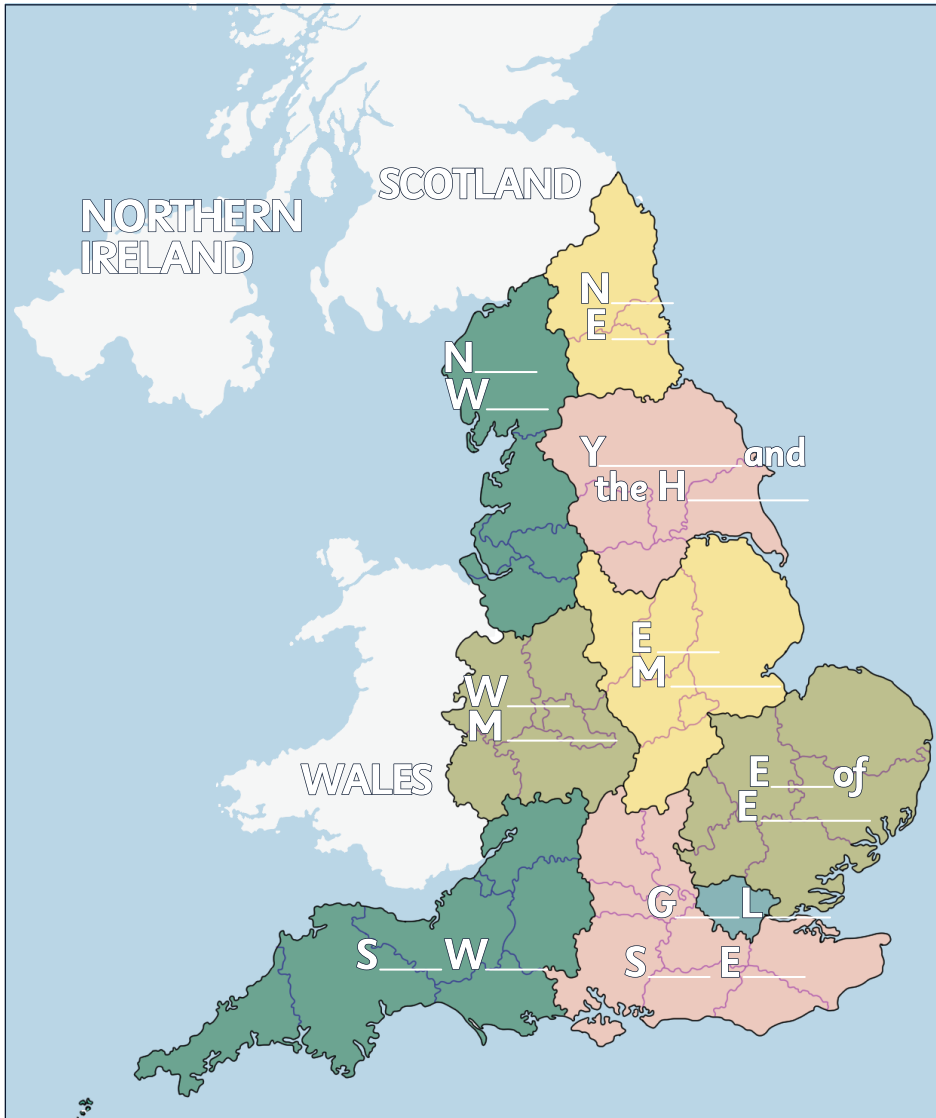
## answers



Did you plot the **key settlements** correctly?



# Let's recap



In the last lesson, you learned that England is divided into **nine regions**.

How many regions can you **name**?

**Use the sentence starter to help you:**

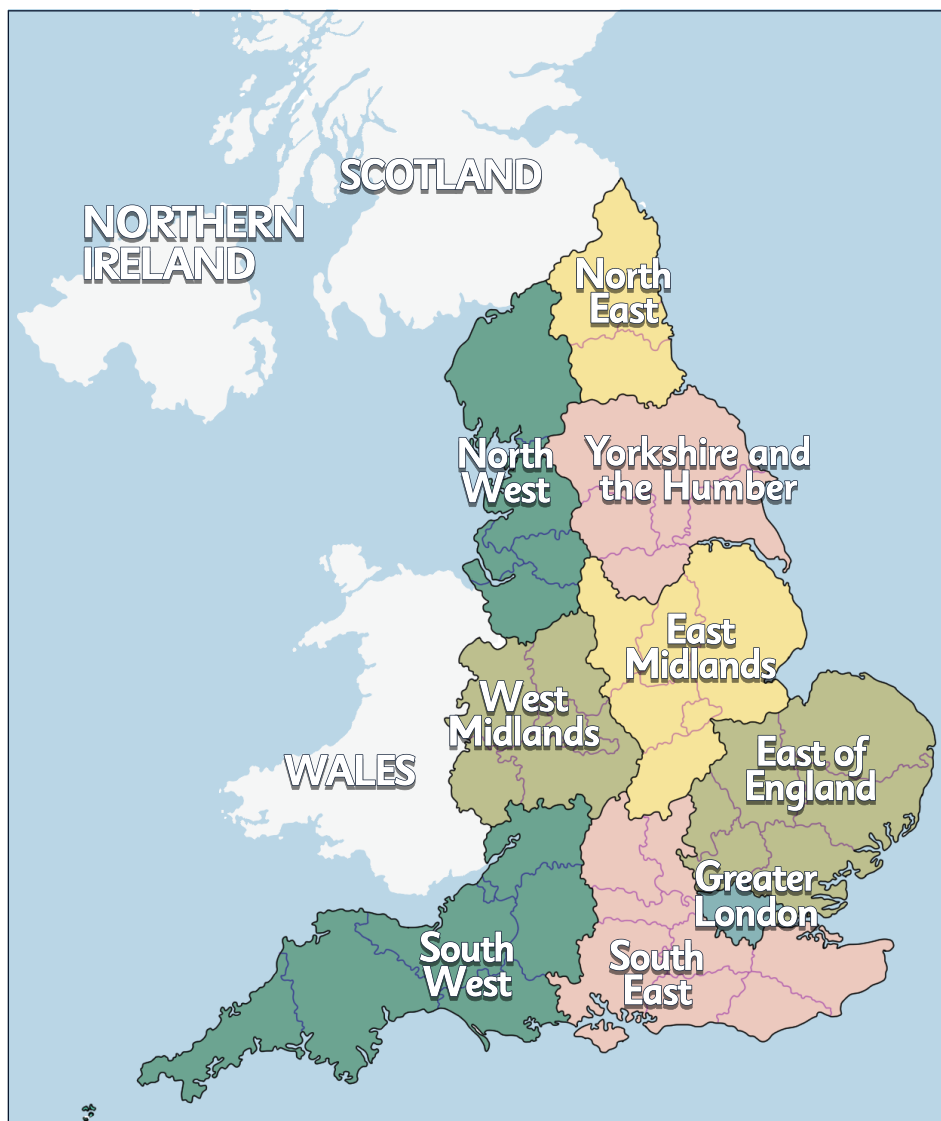
“The regions in England that I can name are...”

**Discuss** with your **learning partner** before the **answers are revealed** on the following slide.



# Let's recap

## answers



Here are the names of the **nine regions**.  
How many did you remember?

England is divided into **regions** because  
it helps the **government organise** and  
**manage** different parts of the country  
more easily.

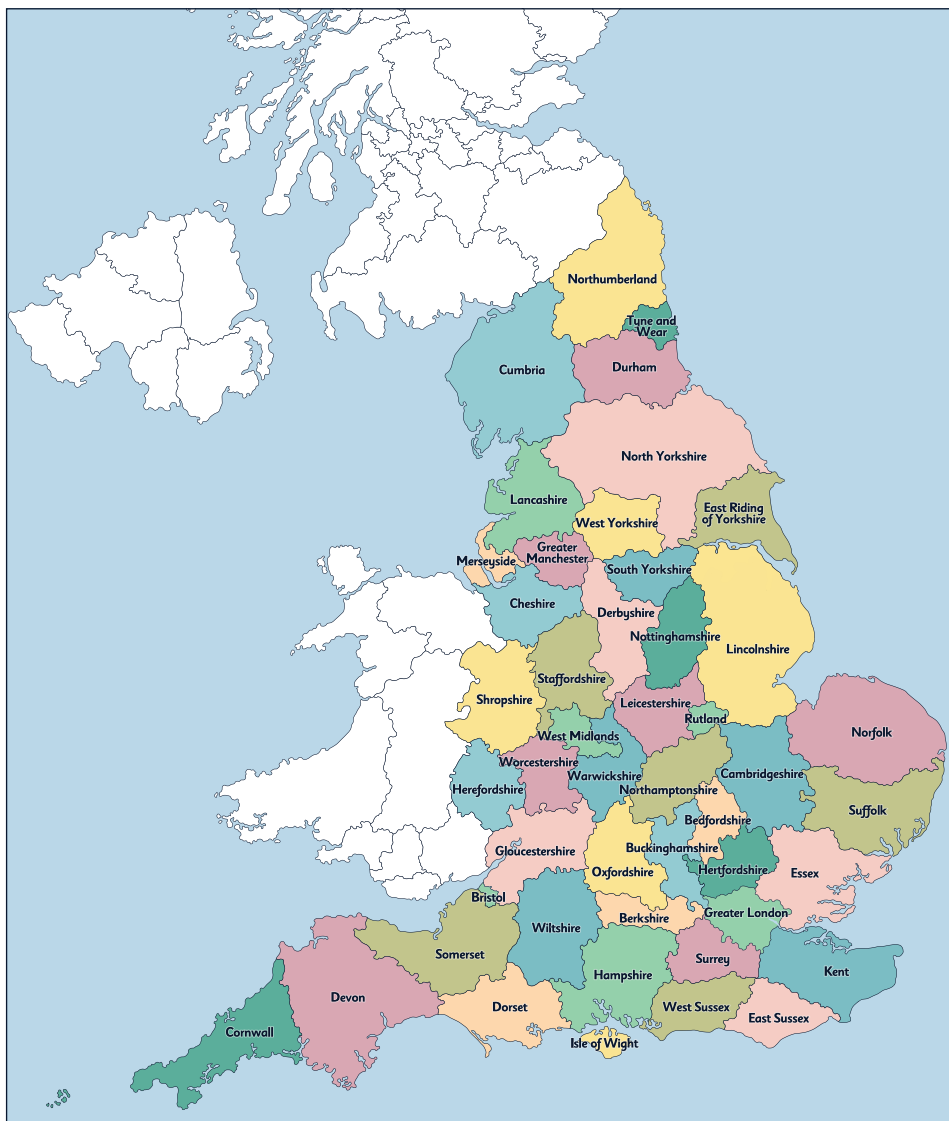




# What are counties?

Before regions existed, England was divided into **smaller areas** called **shires**, which we now call **counties**.

There are currently **48 counties** in **England**.





# What are counties?



Which county  are you in?  
Can you find it on the map?

**Use the sentence starter to help you:**

“We are in the county called...”

**Share your ideas** with your learning partner.  
Be ready to **feed back** to the class.



# What makes each county different?

Each county has its own **unique character** often shaped by:

local events or traditions



annual pancake race, Wiltshire

a food or drink that is made there



Cornish pasty, Cornwall

the physical landscape



Clent Hills, Worcestershire

events that happened in history



The Iron Bridge, Shropshire

important landmarks



Angel of the North, Tyne and Wear

the size or kinds of settlements




Middlesbrough town, North Yorkshire

# Let's discuss



Place

Cultural awareness  
and diversityPlace  
knowledge

What is special about your **county**  ?  
**Use this sentence starter to help you:**  
 "What makes our county special is..."

local events or traditions



annual pancake race, Wiltshire

a food or drink that is made there



Cornish pasty, Cornwall

the physical landscape



Clent Hills, Worcestershire

events that happened in history



The Iron Bridge, Shropshire

important landmarks



Angel of the North, Tyne and Wear

the size or kinds of settlements



Middlesbrough town, North Yorkshire



**Discuss** your ideas with your learning partner and be **ready to feed back** to the class.



# Activity



**Complete** the tasks on your **activity worksheet**.  
You will need a **map showing the counties of England** to help you.

## The counties of England

1. Use your map to **locate** and **colour** the **county** that you live in.
2. Use different colours to **shade** the counties that **border** it.
3. **Create a key** to show which counties you have coloured.
4. **Answer** the questions on page 2.

The county where I live is called \_\_\_\_\_  
The counties which **border** my county are:  
\_\_\_\_\_

## The counties of England

1. Use your map to **locate** and **colour** the **county** that you live in.
2. Use different colours to **shade** the counties that **border** it.
3. **Create a key** to show which counties you have coloured.
4. **Answer** the questions on page 2.

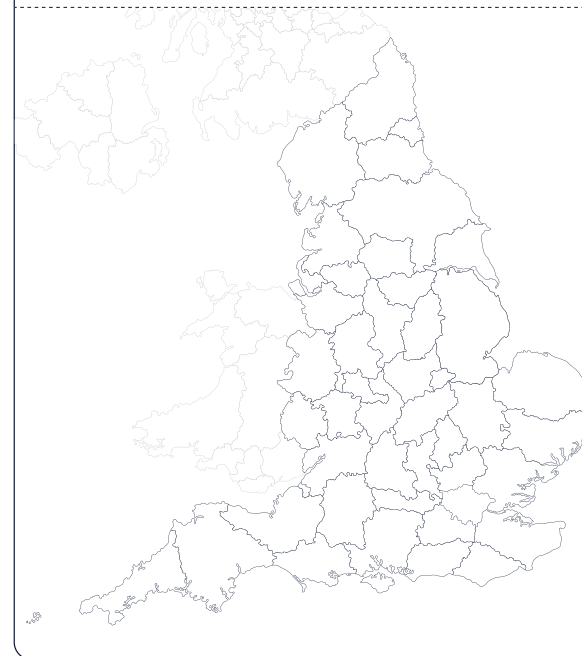
The county where I live is called \_\_\_\_\_  
The counties which **border** my county are:  
\_\_\_\_\_

## The counties of England

1. Use your map to **locate** and **colour** the **county** that you live in.
2. Use different colours to **shade** the counties that **border** it.

The county where I live is called \_\_\_\_\_

The counties which **border** my county are:  
\_\_\_\_\_



www.grammarsaurus.co.uk



# Challenge

Discuss the **following question** with your learning partner.

Why were most early **settlements**  
built **along rivers**?

Sir Halford Mackinder

Be ready to **share your feedback** with the class.

Use the sentence starter to help you:  
“**Most early settlements were built along rivers because...**”

Mary Somerville



# Challenge

## answers

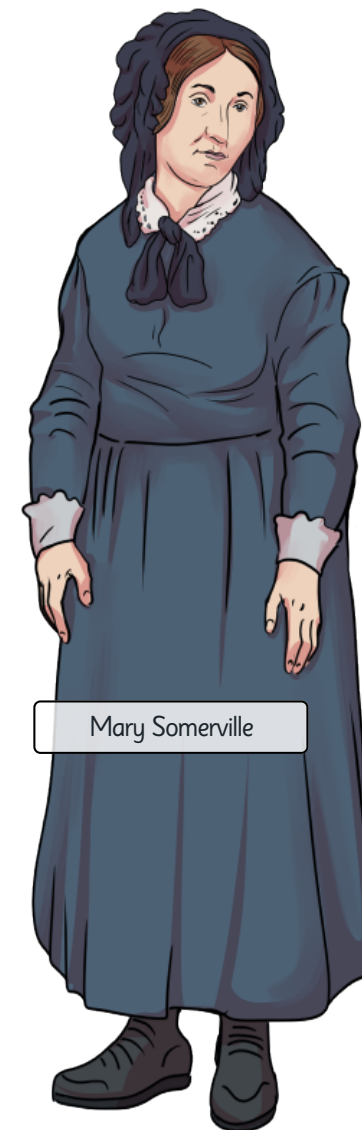
Some possible answers:

**Most early settlements were built along rivers because...**

- people needed fresh water for drinking, cooking and washing
- the land near rivers is usually fertile, making it good for growing crops
- people could catch fish and other food from the river
- rivers allowed people to travel by boat, which was important for trading with other settlements



Sir Halford Mackinder



Mary Somerville

