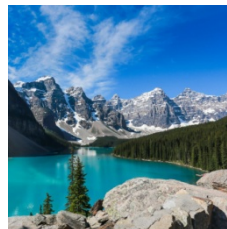
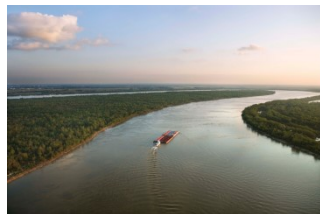
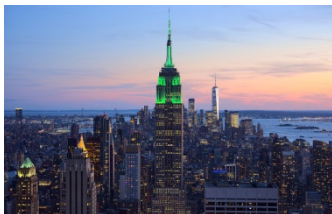


# Knowledge Organiser Year 4/5 Geography: North America – United States of America

Tier 3 Vocabulary	
Canyon	A deep narrow valley with steep sides.
Plateau	A large region that is higher than the surrounding area and is relatively flat.
Erosion	The act in which earth is worn away, often by water, wind or ice.
Flood plain	An area of low-lying ground next to a river which is likely to flood.
Population distribution	The pattern of where people live – sparsely populated places contain few people, densely populated places contain many people.
Population density	The measurement of the total number of people in an area – $\text{total population} \div \text{total land area in km}^2$ .

Key facts and figures	
Borders	The USA shares land and maritime borders with Mexico and Canada and maritime borders with Russia, Cuba and the Bahamas.
Population	332 million – third largest country in the world
Governance	The USA is a federal republic made up of 50 states. The capital city is Washington D.C.
Largest cities (and the state they are in)	New York (New York) – 8 million, Los Angeles (California) – 4 million, Chicago (Illinois) – 3 million, Houston (Texas) – 2 million
Main agricultural products	Corn, soya beans, wheat and cotton. Most crops are grown in a large area called The Great Plains, located in the centre of the USA.



Key Physical Features	
Oceans / bodies of water bordering USA	Atlantic Ocean, Pacific Ocean, Arctic Ocean, Gulf of Mexico, Bering Sea.
Mountain ranges	Appalachian Mountains, Cascade Mountains, Rocky Mountains, Sierra Nevada
Five Great Lakes	Interconnected fresh water lakes in the north eastern USA on the border between the USA and Canada. Lake Superior, Lake Huron, Lake Michigan, Lake Erie and Lake Ontario.
Great Plains	Grassland and prairie region between the Rocky Mountains and the Mississippi River.
Major rivers	Missouri River, Mississippi River, Yukon River, Rio Grande. All between 3000 and 4000 km, the Missouri River being the longest.

**Related prior knowledge:** Y1/2 - Overview of the continents

Y4 – Rivers & basins

**Related future learning:** Y6 – South America