Knowledge Organiser		
Year: 5	**Term: Autumn 2**	**Topic: Africa**

Vocabulary	Meaning
Continent	A large, solid area of land that includes many countries. There are 7 continents on Earth.
Hemisphere	Half of the Earth. The Earth is split into the Northern Hemisphere and the Southern Hemisphere.
Equator	Invisible line around the middle of the Earth.
Fresh Water	Water found in streams, river, ponds and lakes.
Population	The number of people that live in a certain place.
Dalasi	The currency of Gambia.
Borreh	A form of wrestling. Gambia's national sport.
Tribe	A group of people who live together and share the same language, culture and history.
Mandinka	The largest tribe in Gambia.
Griot	These are storytellers that can be found in most villages. They recite key events in history.
Wolof	Widely spoken languages in Gambia although English is the official first language.
Mandingo	

Gambia

Gambia is the smallest country in Africa and takes its name from the River Gambia.

The population of Gambia is 1.7 million people.

Gambia is situated in western Africa and is on the Atlantic Coast surrounded by the neighbouring country Senegal.

The Gambian economy relies heavily on tourism and farming.

Gambia is mainly a Muslim country (95%) but is tolerant of other region such as Christianity.

The official language of Gambia is English but Wolof and Mandingo are widely spoken.

The currency of Gambia is the Gambian Dalasi.

The Gambian national sport is borreh (a form of wrestling).

Gambia was one of the main locations that was part of the trans-Atlantic slave trade.

Africa

Africa is a continent that is situated in the Northern and Southern hemisphere and it is the second largest in the world.

There are 54 countries in Africa. Algeria is the largest country and Gambia is the smallest.

There are 1.2 billion people who live in Africa.

Africa is the hottest continent in the world.

Mount Kilimanjaro is the highest point in Africa, and is in Tanzania.

The Sahara is the largest desert in the world.

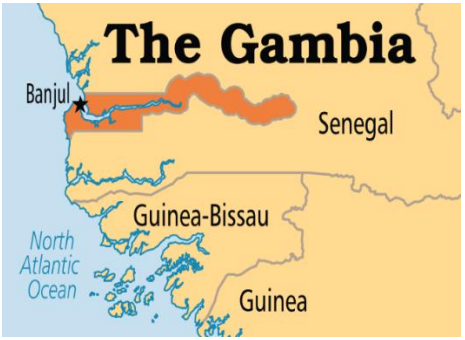
The River Nile is the longest river in the Africa continent.

Lake Victoria is the largest lake in Africa (it has fresh water).

Over 2,000 languages are spoken. Arabic is the most common, followed by English, Swahili and French.

Africa is one of the poorest continents in the world and many people do not have enough food, clean water, electricity and access to medical care.





Map of Africa and Gambia

Gambian Culture and Way of Life

As well as farming, other common professions in Gambia include blacksmithing, leatherworking, and weaving.

The traditional clothes of Gambia are bright colours and have vivid patterns.

A griot is found in most villages in Gambia. These are storytellers who remember and recite the exploits of famous historical figures.

Some traditional instruments are still made in The Gambia. Drums are important in Gambian music, particularly the djembe drum. The kora is another popular instrument.

Three generations of families tend to live together.

Rich people live in large houses made of stone and brick. The middle-class live in houses made of stone with wooden roofs and the lower class live in wooden houses with thatched roofs.

Gambia is home to 9 different tribes who live together harmoniously.

The Mandinka tribe make up the largest ethnic group in Gambia. They are sometimes called the Mandingo.

Learning Objectives	
Lesson 1	I can locate and recall key facts about Africa.
Lesson 2	I can locate Gambia and know key facts.
Lesson 3	I know about Gambian culture and way of life.
Lesson 4	I know why people choose to go on holiday to Gambia.
Lesson 5	I can show what I have learnt.





Mandinka Tribe

Kora



Wassu Stone Circle and the capital city – Banjul.

Why visit Gambia?

Gambia has become a popular tourist destination, especially between October and April.

Gambia has an impressive coastline with sandy, uncrowded beaches and all year round sunshine. This makes it a popular place for British holiday makers.

It is a bird watcher's paradise with over 600 species of birds which live in the forests and by the river banks.

Crocodiles and hippos live in the rivers and monkeys in the trees.

A chimpanzee rehabilitation project exists on Baboon Islands. These islands are a popular place for tourists to visit from the mainland.

Other main places of interest are the River Gambia national park and Bijilo Forest Park and the Wassu Stone Circle which is a sacred site.

Tourists can go on boat trips to fish and observe crocodiles and go river canoeing.

Tourists can explore Banjul, Gambia's capital where they will find lots of history and culture.

People can visit the local markets and buy wooden carvings.

Tourists can take cookery classes where they can learn to cook with local food.

The local people are extremely friendly.

Food in Gambia

Most of Gambia's population work in farming.

The main foods that are grown are groundnuts, mangoes, bananas, oranges, limes, coconut and grapefruit. They also grow okra, pumpkins, peppers, onions, tomatoes and black-eyed peas.

As well as these foods, Gambian people eat fish (including oysters) and rice.

They use lots of spices in their cooking.





The beaches of Gambia.