

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

From: Geographical Association, Sheffield

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‘Good Geography’ Lessons in Brand-New Primary Series

Today’s publication of Ofsted’s *Geography – Learning to make a world of difference* report shows the quality of geography is declining in some schools across England. Half of the primary schools visited by Ofsted were characterised by a lack of expertise and awareness of what constitutes good geography and in approximately one in ten, geography was more or less disappearing. Often this is because teachers are hampered by insufficient training and support.

This report coincides with the launch of the Geographical Association’s (GA) new series of books for primary teachers which demonstrate quality geography and are written by geography specialists. ***Geography Plus: Primary Teachers’ Toolkit*** is an eight-book series covering a wide range of geographical themes, knowledge and ideas to help teachers provide ‘good geography’ lessons. Each book contains eight creative geography lessons supported by downloadable resources including activity sheets, PowerPoint presentations and photosets. The series also offers classroom CPD for teachers through knowledge boxes which provide background topic information and a comprehensive list of weblinks, storybooks and references.

The first two titles are:

- ***Little Blue Planet: Investigating spaceship Earth*** by Paula Owens. This title introduces pupils in years 1–3 to the planet we call home and explores the diversity of life, environments and resources on Earth. *Little Blue Planet* enables children to talk more confidently about their world and to help them think about their actions today with tomorrow in mind. ISBN: 978-1-84377-270-5.
- ***The UK: Investigating who we are*** by Stephen Scoffham and Terry Whyte. This book is aimed at helping pupils in years 4–6 explore what it is like to live in the UK in the first part of the 21st century. It develops their locational knowledge of the UK and considers issues of ethnicity and identity, enabling class discussions and educating pupils about where they live. ISBN: 978-1-84377-271-2.

Forthcoming titles in the series are: *Neighbourhood Watch!*, *Australia Here We Come!*, *Living in the Freezer*, *Food For Thought*, *Green Futures* and *Beside the Sea*.

Each title is priced at £10.99 (GA members), £15.99 (non-members) with an optional CD priced at £4.99 (GA members), £5.99 (non-members) and is available to buy from the GA's online Shop (www.geography.org.uk/shop) or by calling 0114 296 0088. Samples of each book are available to view on the GA website.

Ends

Notes to Editors

For more information, and to view a sample of each book, visit the GA website.

Little Blue Planet: www.geography.org.uk/shop/shop_detail.asp?ID=682§ion=2

The UK: www.geography.org.uk/shop/shop_detail.asp?ID=684§ion=2

Ofsted's *Geography – Learning to make a world of difference* report can be viewed at: www.ofsted.gov.uk/Ofsted-home/Publications-and-research/Browse-all-by/Documents-by-type/Thematic-reports/Geography-declining-in-schools-Ofsted

Hi-resolution book covers are available on request. To request review copies please contact Nicola Donkin (ndonkin@geography.org.uk).

The Geographical Association

The Geographical Association (GA) is a subject association with a mission to further the teaching of geography and to communicate the value of learning geography for all. The GA was founded in 1893 and has around 6,000 memberships including teachers in primary and secondary schools and further education, academic geographers, universities and teacher educators and trainers. For more information visit www.geography.org.uk