

Exploring India

Introducing the physical and human geography of India

Video summary	Before watching the film	During the film
<p>Three 13-year-old pupils from the UK - Dua, Amalia and Nayan - are on a trip to explore the geography of India.</p> <p>The pupils discover India is huge, more than ten times the size of the UK. They explore Patna, the capital of Bihar state, in north-eastern India. Patna has a population of nearly two million people, which is larger than Birmingham and Manchester combined. They also discover India is a country of contrasts as they witness both poverty and wealth. They then travel 2500 kms south to Bangalore (Bengaluru). Bangalore is one of India's fastest growing cities and the centre of India's hi-tech industry. They meet some pupils from a local school and discuss the changes in Bangalore due to its growth. They discuss the length of India's coastline and explore India's scale further. After travelling over 10000 kms the three pupils' preconceptions of India have been challenged.</p> <p>Download / print a transcript of the video.</p>	<p>Ask students what they already know about India. This could be done as a 'Think-Pair-Share' activity to give time for students to think about what they know and to discuss this with their peers.</p> <p>Using a world map, locate India. Ask students to write a locational description of where India is.</p> <p>A satellite image of India could also be looked at. Ask students what physical and human features they can see on the satellite image.</p> <p>Introduce key terms such as:</p> <p>Wealth: a large amount of money or valuable possessions.</p> <p>Hi-tech industry: industries that use a high level of cutting-edge technology, for example, aerospace and robotics.</p> <p>Globalisation: the way in which the world has become more interconnected.</p>	<p>You may wish to stop at relevant points during this short film to pose questions and check understanding or wait until the end. Useful questions might include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What is it like when they arrive in Patna? • How many people live in Patna? • What is a Scorpio? • What is car ownership suggesting to the children? • What languages do the Indian students speak? • What is it like in Bangalore (Bengaluru)? • What is migration? • What impact is globalisation having on some cities in India?

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After watching the film

Split the class into groups and give each a different area of India to research and to present back to the class. Students should research the key human and physical features of their given location. Challenge students to use a range of sources to avoid building a single story of that location. When students present, the other students in the class should make notes about each of the locations so that they can compare and contrast the different parts of India.

After the presentations, discuss with students how their preconceptions of India have changed and what they have now learnt about India. You could also ask what else students wish to know about India.

Where next?

Using GapMinder's website [Dollar Street](#) investigate the lives of other families around the world. This website gives you an insight into their lives and looks at different products that families have in their homes.

Students could look at families across India and see how their lives differ. This could then branch out to other families around the world.

Links to Bitesize

Introduction to India
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/guides/zc72frd/revision/1>