

GEOGRAPHY & HISTORY KNOWLEDGE MAT — THE FENS and BURWELL HOUSE





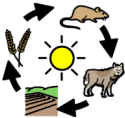
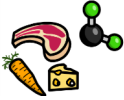





	Definition	
Wetlands	A wetland is an area of land that is either covered by water or saturated by water; these include swamps, bogs and fens.	
Fens	The flat low-lying areas of eastern England, mainly in Lincolnshire, Cambridgeshire, and Norfolk. They used to be marshland but were largely drained for agriculture. They are 3,900 km ² in size.	
Marshes	An area of low-lying land which is flooded in wet seasons or at high tide, and typically remains waterlogged at all times.	
Bogs	An area of wet muddy ground that is too soft to support a heavy body. It is often full of peat.	
Swamps	An area of low-lying, uncultivated ground where water collects;	

KEY LEARNING

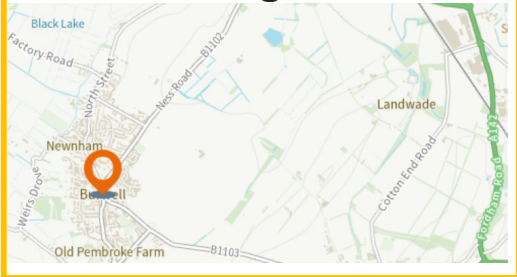
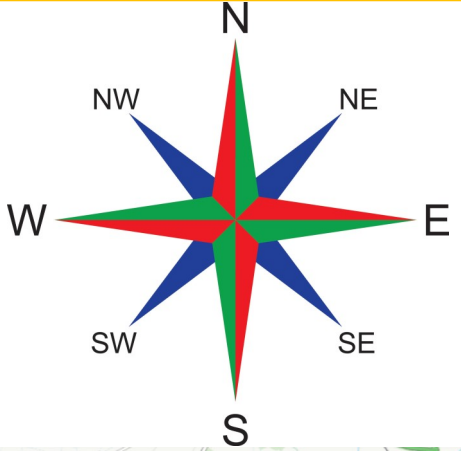


- Wetlands can have permanent bodies of open water or be places where water is not even visible.
- Burwell House is located in the village of Burwell, next to the Fens
- The Fens were naturally watery marshes, which have been drained by humans.
- They were first drained by the Romans at Car Dyke.
- Around 400 years ago they were drained to turn them into farmland, when King Charles I was on the throne.
- People have drained the fens by straightening meandering rivers, building embankments and sluices, a type of channel for water which is controlled by gates, to keep the tides out. They created washes to store the flood waters, such as the Ouse Wash reservoir which is the 3rd largest in England.
- The process of draining the fens was very difficult because when the land was drained of water, the peat soil found in the fens shrank
- The Fens are in the biome temperate forest as part of the UK.
- The Brazil Pantanal is a tropical wetland. It is the worlds largest wetlands. It is a swampy area enclosed by mountains, with many mammals.

VOCABULARY

saturated		Soil that cannot absorb any more liquid.
absorb		To take in or soak up a liquid.
run-off		The drainage away of water
drainage		The action of water or other liquid to run out, leaving it empty or dry.
ecosystem		Where a community of living organisms (such as plants and animals) live together in.
nutrients		Any substance that plants or animals need in order to live and grow: It's good soil - full of nutrients.
conservation		The protection of things found in nature, carefully preserving and looking after nature.
filter		Removing small particles of Insoluble or undissolved material from a liquid, usually by using a barrier with very small holes such as filter paper.
pollution		Pollution is the introduction of harmful materials into the environment.
peat		A brown material resembling soil, formed by the partial decomposition of vegetable matter in the wet conditions of bogs and fens.
biodiversity		The variety of plant and animal life in the world or in a particular habitat

Eight Point Compass



Links to Previous Learning

Year 1	Year 2
Explorers Migration	United Islands, Jamaica vs UK
Year 3	Year 4
Going Underground Tectonics	Ancient Romans , Hampstead Heath
Year 5	Anglo-Saxons, rivers