

## Knowledge Organiser—Year 5

How are the Caribbean Islands and the U.K similar?

### Vocabulary

**Caribbean** — the region consisting of the Caribbean Sea, its islands (including the West Indies), and the surrounding coasts.

**The Windrush** — relating to the people who emigrated from the Caribbean to Britain on the British ship the *Empire Windrush* in 1948.

**Beach** — a pebbly or sandy shore, especially by the sea between high- and low-water marks.

**Export**— a product or service sold abroad.

**Import** — a commodity, article, or service brought in from abroad for sale.

**Mountain** — a large natural elevation of the earth's surface rising abruptly from the surrounding level (a large steep hill).

**Tourism** — the commercial organisation and operation of holidays and visits to places of interest.

**Economy** — the state of a country or region in terms of the production and consumption of goods and services and the supply of money.

**Weather** — the state of the atmosphere at a particular place and time as regards heat, cloudiness, dryness, sunshine, wind, rain, etc.

### Map of the Caribbean



### Flags of Caribbean Countries



### Key facts

The Caribbean is made up of more than 7,000 islands, small islands and cays, most of them surrounding the sea. Approximately 2% of the islands in the Caribbean are inhabited by people.

The Caribbean is bordered by the Atlantic Ocean to its east and north, the coast of South America to its south, the coast of Central America to its southwest, and by the Gulf of Mexico to its northwest.

The islands in the Caribbean are also sometimes referred to as the West Indies. Christopher Columbus thought he had reached the Indies (Asia) on his voyage to find another route there. Instead he had reached the Caribbean. The Caribbean was named the West Indies to account for Columbus' mistake.

In the Caribbean there are over 500 species of birds, including 172 species that are found nowhere else in the world. Also, there are about 189 different species of amphibians, 497 species of reptiles and 164 mammals who live there.

The 18th Century saw many countries trying to colonize the islands. Because of this, Caribbean culture is very similar to those of Africa, India and many countries in Europe.

The most populated islands in the Caribbean are Haiti and the Dominican Republic, as well as Cuba. More than 4.3 million tourists visit the Dominican Republic each year, making it the most popular with tourists. Approximately 3.7 million visit Puerto Rico each year, and 2.7 million visit Cuba each year.

The name Caribbean comes from Carib, indigenous people living in the Lesser Antilles and northern South America when the Europeans came to the Americas

The Caribbean Islands have a diverse topography (physical features) including coral reefs, mountains, tropical forests, low-lying plantations, valleys, waterfalls, and volcanoes.

The main languages spoken in the Caribbean include: English, Spanish, French, Haitian Creole, French Creole and Dutch.