

Europe

- Europe is the second smallest continent in the world.
- The Ural mountains separate Europe from Asia.

The European Union

- The European Union (EU) is a unique group of 27 countries that work together to ensure peace and prosperity in Europe.

How did the EU begin

- Europe was destroyed and millions of people died during world war 11
- Some countries decided to make sure it never happened again



- They believed that everyone should have a better life if they shared ideas and wealth.
- The result would then prove that working together as a team is better than fighting against each other.



- So in 1957, a team of six countries was set up. It was called the European Economic Community (EEC) because the six countries worked together on economic issues.
- They set up rules to make it easier for people to buy or sell goods in any of the countries of the EU and to move freely between the countries.



- In time they began to work on other issues such as education, the environment and international co-operation. Later they became known as the European Union or EU.
- The EU is still being built today. More countries are waiting to join.



Who is in the EU ?

[illegible]

How does the EU work?

- 27 countries with 445 million people all working together in the EU
- How do they all agree what to do?
- Three institutions were created to make decisions.
 1. European commission
 2. Council of the EU
 3. European Parliament

The European Commission suggests new rules.

NEW RULE?

The suggestions are sent to the Parliament and Council.



They discuss them and decide whether to accept them.



If the new rule is accepted, the Commission makes sure it works.

What does the EU do?

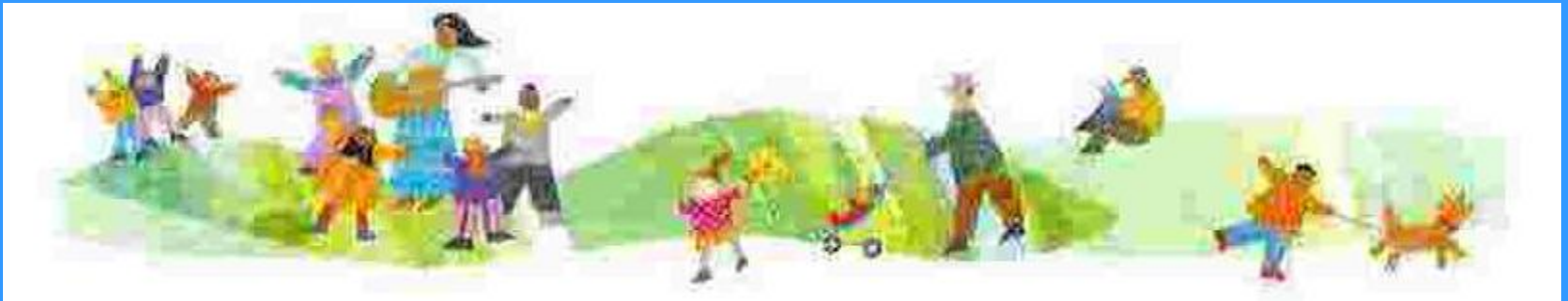
- Businesses have access to a single European market with 445 million people. This allows them to sell more products, earn more money and create more jobs



- There is a greater choice of products for you, the shopper, in one big market.



- EU citizens have the freedom to travel, live, study and work in other EU countries



- The EU ensures there is enough food for its citizens by supporting farmers.



- Money is provided for large roads and public transport which makes it easier for you to travel.
- Environment rules protect nature and result in cleaner air, land and sea.



- The EU works to make sure its citizens are safe and secure by making rules to help fight crime and protect citizens' rights.
- The EU often represents member states on the world stage. It negotiates agreements with countries and sends aid to less well off countries



The EURO

- The Euro is the currency for 12 countries in the EU.
- There are 7 different euro notes...
-and 8 different euro coins.



- The notes are exactly the same in all of the 12 countries but the coins are different. The coins have a different national design on one side depending on the country they come from.

Symbols of the EU

- The circle is a symbol of unity between the people of the EU and the number of stars (12) is the symbol of perfection.



The European Anthem

“Ode to Joy”

Composed by Ludwig van Beethoven
in 1823.