

Contents

Preface	viii
Part 1 Concepts, contexts and histories	1
1 A modern school geography	3
Introduction	3
Modernity	3
A world to win: geography education 1945–64	5
1964–80 geography as a modern subject	11
The geography of the 1980s	13
Geography teaching in ‘new times’: 1989–2009	16
Conclusion	19
2 The place of geography in schools today	21
Shift happens	21
The rise of the digital economy	22
Education and the knowledge economy	22
Current policies agendas	25
Clearing up after the economy	27
Widening the debate	30
Deconstructing the knowledge economy	30
Deconstructing the community	33
Conclusion	35
3 What does it mean to be a teacher of geography?	37
Introduction	37
Schoolteachers as engaged professionals	38
The importance of the big picture	40
And back to geography	43
Geography as a curriculum resource	46
Curriculum-making	49
Conclusion	51
4 A ‘capability’ perspective on geography in schools	53
Introduction	53
Aims and purposes, knowledge and understanding	54
Capability	62
In conclusion: towards geo-capability?	64

vi CONTENTS

Part 2 Reconstructing concepts	67
5 Space	69
Introduction	69
The science of space	69
The limits of spatial science	71
1989: the reassertion of space in geographical education?	74
Post-structural spaces	76
Case study: rural spaces	79
Conclusion	82
6 Place	83
Introduction	83
Fear of a placeless planet	84
Whose place?	89
Do places matter?	91
Conclusion	94
7 Scale	96
Introduction	96
The idea of scale in geography	97
Extending the idea of scale	99
What we learn from the politics of scale	101
The question of 'universal scale' and 'virtual worlds'	104
Conclusion	106
8 Interdependence and development	107
Introduction	107
Interdependence and the 'global dimension'	108
Global citizenship	111
Development and developmentalism	113
Conclusion	118
9 Cultural understanding and diversity: promoting community cohesion?	120
Introduction	120
Cultural understanding and diversity in the National Curriculum	121
Towards community cohesion	121
From no problem here to we're all white, thanks	125
Geographies of difference	128
Who dies of what, where <i>and why</i> ?	130
Conclusion	131
10 Environment, sustainability and futures	133
Introduction: ethical and political perspectives	133
Sustainable development: a short reprise	136
Environment, environmentalism and the culture of argument	139
Futures	143
Conclusion	144

Part 3 Curriculum challenges	145
11 Geography, media and education	147
A world in crisis?	147
The importance of television	149
Teaching the media	150
Children making meaning	152
The rise of 'new media'	156
Conclusion	159
12 A mind for the future	161
Back to the front	161
Facing the future	162
Making geography work for the future	162
What kind of geographer are you?	163
Conclusion	165
A different view	165
References	166
Index	179