



GEOGRAPHY - YEAR 8

Unit 1: Challenges and Opportunities in the UK: Poverty, Water Supplies, Waste, Air Pollution; Energy

This topic introduces you to the challenges the UK faces including poverty, water supply, waste, air pollution and energy. The lessons discuss each of these challenges and then moves on to look at the opportunities for the UK to meet the challenge.

The skill focus for this unit is importance of Geographic Information Systems (GIS) and how GIS is used by the Police to tackle crimes is explored by studying crime rates in the local area.

Unit 3: Weather Hazards: Tornadoes, Tropical Storms and Hurricanes, Climate Change

This topic builds on the previous one to investigate the causes and consequences of tropical storms, hurricanes and tornadoes. You will also study the evidence for, causes and consequences of climate change.

The skills focus for this unit will be to analyse sources and evaluate the validity of evidence including how to spot 'fake news'.

Unit 5: Our Living World: Global Breakfast, Ecosystems and Biomes, Coral Reefs and Rainforests

This topic introduces you to the living world, a compulsory topic at GCSE. You will focus on bamboo, one of the world's most versatile plants, its distribution and many uses. You will learn about the concept of 'from field to plate' and 'food miles' using products like porridge and cereal. You are introduced to the concept of ecosystems, food chains and food webs through the study of life in a deciduous woodland and on coral reefs. These are used to help explain the distribution and characteristics of global biomes, looking in focus at the Mediterranean biome.

The skills focus for this unit will be studying the patterns of biomes in Russia using an atlas map and satellite images.

Unit 2: Our Physical World: Extreme World, Underwater World, Earthquakes, Volcanoes, Global Weather and Climate

This topic introduces you to the physical world, plate tectonics, global weather and climate. You will use a range of skill based activities to study the world's mountain ranges, rivers and oceans. You will learn the theory of plate tectonics by exploring the world beneath the oceans, investigate impressive landforms like the Mid-Atlantic Ridge and the Mariana Trench. You will learn about the causes and consequences of earthquakes and volcanoes including their distribution. You will consider aspects of the world's weather and climate, including some recent extreme weather events, patterns of global climate and the Asian monsoon.

The skills focus for this unit will be to use a variety of resources to track and study the effects of Hurricane Irma (2017) or a more recent hurricane.

Unit 4: The Geography of Crime: Types of Crime, Effects of Crime, Designing-out Crime

This topic investigates the geography of crime. You will learn about different types of crime and how to design-out crime through careful planning of space and place. You will conduct a security survey of the academy grounds and interrogate the police database of crimes for the local area.

The skills focus for this unit will be to use Geographical Information Systems to investigate crime rates and to design a crime-free housing estate.

Unit 6: Review of Year 8 geography. Assessment. Field trip.

