

Year 8 Geography

After gaining a strong foundation knowledge of some of the key concepts we use in geography like scale, sustainability, sense of place, natural processes and development we build on them by looking at topics where many of these concepts interact to create unique environments and places.

The coast is a dynamic location with many natural processes interacting to create a range of environments, some of which you will have studied at KS2. We study the interactions with people and the environment through flooding, erosion, the need to build defences for protection, and in the second part of the coast's topic of tourism on the coast. There are strong links here to weather and climate. Most human development relies on a supply of energy and our next topic studies how we use energy, is generation, transportation and the issues we face in the 21st century because of the energy choices we make. This builds on your KS2 understanding of where resources are located.

A consequence of our use of fossil fuels is climate change and we will study both the natural and human causes as well as the effects in the UK and around the world. As a global community: How do we respond to this challenge where we can grow economically but not destroy the planet?- the concept of sustainability is revisited here. While we are studying at a global scale we then move on to find out what globalisation is and how we are all linked through trade and communications. Understanding development from the Africa topic as well as scale and locations from the My Place topics here will help us develop our understanding.

As you will know from KS1,2 and the My Place topic in year 7, enquiry is important in geography. We study the water cycle and rivers as well as why they flood. Your knowledge of settlements from KS2 will be needed here as we will study the city of York and identify the best flood defence through fieldwork.

You will see a great deal of what we do this year requires knowledge from KS1,2 and Year 7. We will revisit many of our topics through our Brain In Gear as well as discussing what knowledge you developed at Primary School. We start to introduce GCSE 'style' questions in order to build up the structure and detail of your responses.

Year 8 Curriculum	Autumn Term 1	Autumn Term 2	Spring Term 1	Spring Term 2	Summer Term 1	Summer Term 2
Topic(s)	<p>Coasts - We will explore the processes taking place at the coast and the distinctive landforms which are sculpted as a result of these. We will look at the opportunities and challenges associated with coastal environments and how we can manage some of</p>	<p>Tourism (Coasts) - We will explore what tourism is, what drives the industry and where it happens. We will consider the opportunities and challenges associated with the tourist industry through case studies.</p>	<p>Energy - We aim to understand the range of energy sources humanity uses and the consequences of this both nationally and globally. We then focus on electricity production in the UK and how it has changed in the last decade towards more sustainable sources.</p>	<p>Climate Change - We will explore the topical issue of climate change looking at the causes, both humans and natural, the effects at various scales and also take a look at what can be done to reduce the effects and how, as humans, we might be able to mitigate or adapt to the changes it brings to</p>	<p>Globalisation -We aim to understand the many processes at work that drive globalisation and create connections between locations both near and far. We will develop the concept of interdependence, how places like the UK and Europe or the UK and China are connected and rely on each other.</p>	<p>Hazards: Rivers. We aim to look at the many positives that rivers bring, as well as the many risks that come with living next to a river. We will investigate the range of reasons why flooding happens and how climate change may impact flooding in the future.</p>

Assessment	the challenges.		We debate the use of nuclear energy as a low carbon fuel	our world.	We also study how the process of globalisation has developed and changed over time and ultimately changes places too.	How do we currently manage flooding in different areas and how should we approach this management in the future?
	You will set an end of topic test that will assess your knowledge and understanding of this topic. We provide revision resources to help you identify ways to prepare for tests.	You will use what you have learnt from the different tourism case studies to design your own eco resort. You will need to clarify how your resort will benefit people, the environment and the economy to prove that unlike some of the case studies we have looked at, yours will be a sustainable example of tourism.	Working as part of a team to produce an academic poster on a fuel source. Once we have a sound understanding of renewable sources of energy we carry out a decision making exercise to identify the best renewable project for a town.	You will complete a write up of an experiment to show the greenhouse effect which will be a good example of following a geographical enquiry - a vital skill for geography. You will also get to be creative and design an energy efficient building which will build on your previous knowledge from the energy topic and incorporate the new things you have learnt in this topic too.	China has many factories producing products for the world, you will be asked to decide on the best possible location for a new factory. The second assessment in the topic is to produce a leaflet that highlights how fair trade as a concept can help people in developing countries and what makes Stokesley a Fair Trade Town!	We carry out fieldwork along the River Ouse in York and write up our findings. You will then have a test which replicates elements of the GCSE paper 3 on carrying out geographical enquiries.

Independent Work

Research into some large global companies like Apple
 Research into the Fair Trade Foundation and how Stokesley became a Fair Trade Town
 Following a container ship on it journey to deliver goods across the world
 Take a trip to the coast - can you find examples of the landforms we have been looking at.
 Researching the defences York has to reduce flooding
 Find out what is happening in your area to combat climate change - you could even consider joining a local environmental awareness group!
 Watch TV shows where inspiring people have made homes which are designed to be environmentally friendly and green.