



Blue Coat Church of England Academy

Year: 9

Subject: Geography

Term 1.1

UK Coasts (2020-2021 only, will be replaced in 2021-2022)

We start by looking at physical geography with this unit and focus on the power of the seas and oceans around the UK. We look at the physical landscapes they have created such as caves, headlands and bays as well as the challenges they leave for humans. This unit looks to develop decision making skills in our students and pushes them to justify any ideas they have.

Term 1.2

North America

This unit focuses on one of our most vital natural resources; fresh water. We will begin by looking at the water cycle and how it drives the whole process of rivers. We will investigate different river landforms such as waterfalls and meanders. Then we will focus on the challenges that rivers provide mainly through flooding. The primary focus of this unit is to give students an understanding of one of the most important natural resources in the UK.

Term 2 (All) Weather, Climate and Extremes

An ever more important topic due to the nature of global climate change. We begin by looking at the differences between climate and weather. This includes a focus on rainfall and the phenomena known as urban heat islands. We then focus on extreme environments around the globe with a large amount of time devoted to the conditions in Antarctica. Major events such as Cyclone Nargis and Hurricane Sandy are also reviewed. Perhaps the most important part of this work is based in studying climate change and the impact humans have had.

Term 3.1 The Taiga

This unit builds on the work of Ecosystems and Tropical places in Year 7. We reinforce the characteristics of ecosystems as well as what biomes are and where you would find them. We then focus on the Taiga forest (sometimes known as Boreal) which covers large swathes of Russia, Canada and Scandinavia. This evergreen forest is particularly sensitive biome to change, which makes it an excellent one to evaluate. Students develop their understanding of adaptations, threats and management techniques.

Term 3.2 Space and Place

During this unit pupils will explore two key theories within human Geography. Using a range of activities and resources, pupils will tackle the theories of space and place through several different case studies, ranging from the school they attend to Cold War Berlin. This topic encourages independent learning skills and gets pupils to engage with critical thinking and analysis of Geographic theory.

Supporting your child at home

You can support your child at home by promoting the use of showmyhomework. During the year homework tailored to the needs of your child will appear on a weekly basis. In preparation for any in class assessments revision materials will also be made available online and in hard copy when students do not have access to them. It is important that you encourage your child to keep up with any work set as they reinforce the work done in the classroom. Our most successful students are those that are able to complement their work in school with that at home.

Making progress in this subject

To help your child make progress in Geography you should try to expose them to a variety of different news outlets such as newspapers, magazines as well as broadcast news. You could encourage discussions about the world around them. Issues such as migration, Brexit, and climate change will all impact upon areas which geography covers and any extra insight will only support your child's learning.