Y3 Geography Knowledge Organiser
Autumn Term

Learning Organiser: How and why is my local area changing?

Key objective
Understand the factors that cause environments to change both locally and globally.


My school grounds and locality

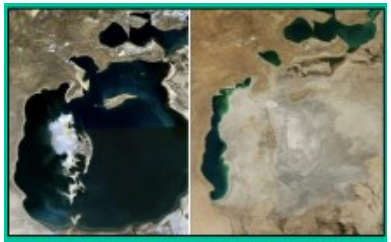

Glenridding in Cumbria

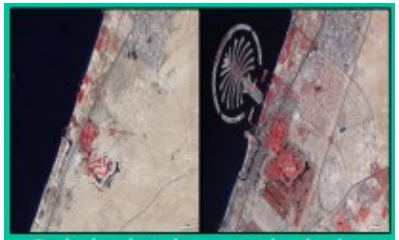

Olympic Stadium and park, London – before and after development

Important things I will know and understand
1. The difference between physical and human processes and events that affect environments.
2. How the environment of my school and grounds has changed over time and why locations in the local area of the school have changed.
3. That there are often different views about whether environmental change is a positive thing.
4. How the quality of the environment varies in the local area surrounding my school.
5. How and why environments are changing at different locations around the world, and how environmental change on a global scale affects our lives locally.
6. How humans behave locally can contribute to global changes such as climate change.
Fieldwork: Data collection and recording—walk around the local area.

Important vocabulary I will learn

Pattern	how objects are arranged or laid out on the earth's surface
Pollution	something added to the environment that is harmful to living things
Flash flood	sudden flooding that occurs when rivers rise quickly with no warning after heavy rain
Deforestation	cutting down huge areas of woodland to use the land for other purposes
Natural disaster	a catastrophic event caused by a natural process that affects people and property
Residential	areas where the majority of land is occupied by people's homes
Commercial	something involving making products or providing services to make money
Recreation	activities people choose to do that help them relax or have fun
Leisure	any activity someone chooses to do in their own time outside of work or school
Public service	something provided for the benefit of people by the government
Hypothesis	an idea, question or theory that can be investigated to see whether it has any validity or truth
Accessibility	how easily and quickly a place or location can be reached
Correlation	a way of finding out how closely related two sets of data are
Redevelopment	demolishing derelict buildings and replacing them with modern homes, businesses and amenities


Aral Sea – before and after water extraction for irrigation


Dubai – development in the last twenty years


Deforestation in the state of Maranhao, Brazil

Learning Organiser: Why do some earthquakes cause more destruction than others?

Key objective

Understand what creates an earthquake and the factors which determine the number of deaths and level of destruction they are likely to cause.

Important locations I will visit

New Zealand

Haiti

Chile

Important things I will know and understand

What causes an earthquake.

The distribution of earthquakes occurring around the world.

Why earthquakes happen at some locations but not others.

How the magnitude of an earthquake is measured.

Why earthquakes with the greatest magnitude do not necessarily cause the most deaths and destruction.

What causes a volcano.

Why volcanoes and earthquakes often occur at the same locations around the world.

The location of the 'Pacific Ring of Fire' and why it is a hot spot for earthquakes and volcanoes.

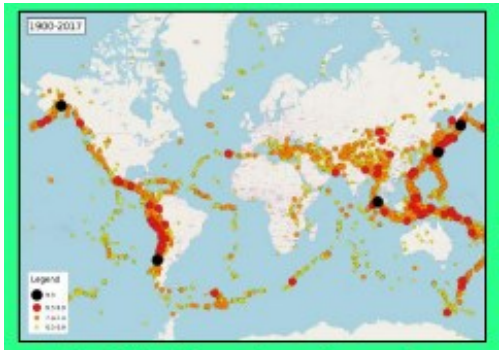
The location, cause and effects of the Christchurch (New Zealand) earthquake of 2011.

Important vocabulary I will learn

Earthquake	the sudden shaking of the ground which happens when masses of rock change position along a fault in the earth's crust
Strata	layers of rock
Epicentre	the point on the Earth's surface directly above where an earthquake happens underground
Richter scale	how the magnitude or energy released by an earthquake is measured
Projection	an estimate of what might happen in the future based on what is happening now
Pattern	how objects are arranged or laid out on the earth's surface
Tectonic plate	one of the large moving sections of the Earth's crust
Remote	a faraway place situated a long distance from centres of population
Crust	the thin outermost layer of the Earth made of solid rock
Mantle	the very thick layer of rock that lies between the Earth's crust and its central core
Core	the very hot centre of the Earth which is solid on the inside and liquid on the outside
Volcano	a landform (usually a mountain) from which red hot liquid rock called magma erupts
Fault	a crack in the earth's crust particularly between two tectonic plates

Important maps I will study

Tectonic plates of the Earth's crust



Distribution of earthquakes

Location of the Pacific Ring of Fire

Y3 Geography Knowledge Organiser
Spring Term

Y3 Geography Knowledge Organiser
Summer Term

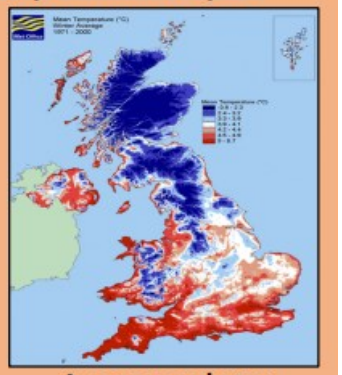
Learning Organiser: Why are jungles so wet and deserts so dry?

Key objective
To understand how different areas of climate known as biomes give rise to very distinctive communities of plants and animals.

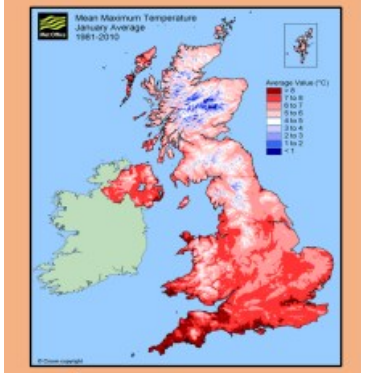
Important things I will know and understand

The difference between weather and climate.
How temperature and precipitation vary in the UK.
The location and features of the main climate regions of the world.
How climate affects the landscape of different environments.
What a biome is and the name and location of the world's main biomes.
The flora and fauna of the main biomes of the world.
The physical features of the Atacama Desert.
Why Arica in Chile is the driest inhabited place in the world.
Why Manaus in Amazonia is one of the wettest places in the world.

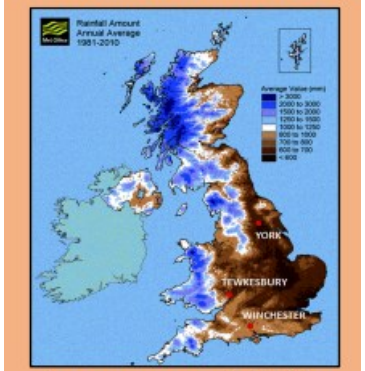
Maps I will interpret



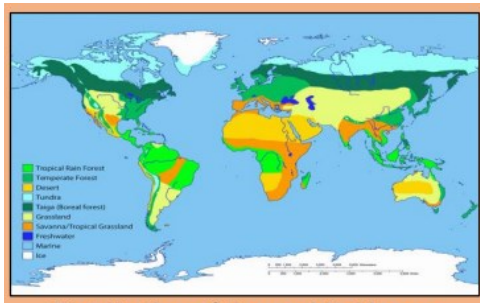
Average winter temperatures in the UK



Average summer temperatures in the UK



Average precipitation across the UK



Distribution of the world's biomes

Political map of South America

Physical map of South America

Important vocabulary I will learn

Biodiversity	the variety of plants and animals living in a particular place
Ecosystem	the community of living things found in a particular area which depend upon each other
Habitat	the natural home of a living thing
Pattern	how objects are arranged or laid out on the Earth's surface
Prevailing wind	the direction from which a wind most frequently blows
Climate graph	a graph showing the average pattern of temperature and precipitation over the course of a year
Precipitation	any kind of moisture that falls from the clouds e.g., rain, snow, dew
Flora	all of the plant life of a place
Fauna	all of the animal life of a place
Rain forest	dense evergreen woodland found in tropical regions around the Equator
Desert	an environment that is very dry because it receives very little precipitation
Convectional rain	when warm moist air rises to a height where its water vapour condenses to rain
Relief rain	as air rises over mountains it cools causing water vapour to condense as rain droplets
Drought	a very long period of time without any precipitation
Adaptation	how living things are particularly suited to the environment in which they live