

# Year 9 Geography Learning Outcomes

## Unit 1: Resource Management

- To understand what is meant by social and economic well-being.
- To be able to explain how water, food and energy affect our economic and social well-being.
- An overview of global inequalities in the supply and consumption of resources.
- To be able to explain why inequalities in food, water and energy exist across the globe.
- To understand the changing demand for food in the UK - high-value food imports, all-year demand for seasonal food and organic produce.
- To know the impact of importing our food compared to using local and national food sources.
- To be able to explain what agribusiness is and how it works.
- To be able to explain a range of reasons behind the changing demand for water in the UK.
- To understand where the areas of greatest water surplus and demand are found, and how these are matched together.
- To be able to explain the causes and effects of and responses to poor water quality.
- Definition of energy mix. How UK's energy mix has changed and will continue to change over time.
- Description of the global distribution of energy consumption and supply.
- Reasons for increasing global energy consumption: population growth and economic development.
- How various factors can affect global energy security and supply.
- The economic and environmental opportunities and challenges associated with different types of energy.
- To understand and be able to explain the impacts of energy insecurity and the efforts to reduce this insecurity on people, the economy and the environment.
- To understand how conflicts can arise from efforts to reduce energy insecurity.
- To be able to explain how nuclear, fossil fuels and renewables can increase energy supply and reduce energy insecurity.
- Methods to reduce individual energy use and improve energy conservation through design.
- To understand how technology in the form of combined heat and power can increase efficiency in the use of fossil fuels.
- Should the proposed coal mine at Druridge Bay go ahead? A decision-making exercise weighing up the positive and negative socio-economic and environmental benefits and drawbacks.
- To understand what a micro-hydro scheme is and how one works.
- To be able to explain the benefits they bring to Nepal.

## Unit 2: The Living World – Tropical Rainforests

- Definition of an ecosystem and key terms relating to ecosystems.
- A pond as an example of small-scale ecosystem in the UK that features producers, consumers, decomposers, nutrient cycling and food webs.
- The impact on the ecosystem of changing one component.
- The distribution and main characteristics of large-scale global ecosystems (biomes).
- How vegetation and animals have adapted to the physical conditions of a tropical rainforest.
- Climatic and soil characteristics of a tropical rainforest.
- Rainforest food webs.
- Deforestation – description of changing rates and patterns.
- Causes of deforestation in the Amazon Case Study (subsistence and commercial farming, logging, road building, mineral extraction, energy development, settlement and population growth).
- Impacts of deforestation in the Amazon Case Study (economic development, soil erosion, decline of and conflicts with indigenous tribes, climate change).
- Global importance of the rainforest to people and the environment.
- Should development take place in the Amazon? A decision-making exercise based on positive and negative socio-economic and environmental impacts of deforestation.
- Ways to sustainably manage the rainforest – ecotourism, selective logging and replanting, education and conservation, debt reduction, international agreements on use of tropical hardwoods.

## Unit 3: The Living World – Hot Deserts

- Climatic and soil characteristics of a Hot Desert.
- How vegetation and animals have adapted to the physical conditions of a Hot Desert.
- Hot Desert case study featuring opportunities for economic development through commercial farming, mining/mineral extraction, tourism and energy and the challenges of extreme temperatures, water supply and inaccessibility.
- Definition of desertification, its causes (climate change, population growth, removal of fuel wood, over-grazing and over-cultivation, soil erosion).
- Social and environmental effects of desertification in the Sahel.
- Ways in which the risk of desertification can be reduced through stone lines and Acacia tree planting in the Sahel.