How are we changing the planet?

Key knowledge



Creativity is helping us to combat climate change and help our planet.

Humans are a large cause of climate change – pollution is warming up the planet.

Using solar energy (from the sun) is a renewable source because this will not run out.

Global warming is making some parts of the earth hotter, and some parts colder (at certain points of the year).

Cave paintings and decorated objects show creativity and communication.

Geographical skills:

To ask questions about climate change and discover some of the causes of it.

To identify different climate zones around the world and describe what it might be like there.

To understand what primary and secondary sources are:

- Primary sources are original/first hand information and can be reliable sources. This might include the findings of scientists around the world on how to slow the effect of climate change.

- Secondary sources might include books, journals, websites and word of mouth. This information is subject to interpretation and different views/ideas and may not be as reliable as primary sources.

To understand the difference between climate and weather.

Key vocabulary

Renewable energy – power produced by a source that is not depleted (lost forever) when used. For example, wind (turbines) or solar power (the sun).

Climate – the pattern of weather in a particular area over a long period of time (what it is like there usually).

Climate change – the shift in the temperature and weather caused by humans and natural events.

Environment – the physical surroundings of the Earth, including all living things.

Sustainability – using resources that are infinite (can be produced again) rather than finite resources (can not be produced again like oil and coal).

Fossil fuels – this includes coal, oil which are formed naturally through the remains of dead organisms.

Human and Physical Geography

- Human geography is how people live and use the land. This may include features such as settlements (villages, towns and cities), roads, farms and other land uses.

- Physical geography is about the natural features of the Earth. This may include features such as mountains, rivers, oceans, weather, ecosystems/biomes, volcanoes.

- People may choose to live in different places due to their proximity (how close they are) to different human and physical geographical features.