Year 7
Subject: Geography
Topic/Unit: Amazing World
When: HT 1

Huntington School
Learn and succeed

Overview: This unit introduces students to the world around them by focusing on human and physical characteristics of the major continents. This encourages students to develop a curiosity about the wider world and to begin to think about the processes that have shaped and continue to shape our planet. It introduces the unique approach geographers have to understanding the world around them and the part they can play in the planet's future.

Why this? Why now? Students have a diverse experience of what geography is from their various primary schools so this is an opportunity to introduce the fundamental concepts and processes that will underpin their further learning in the subject.

Building on…building to: This builds on their geographical knowledge from KS2 which largely involves knowing about scale and the introduction of some skills e.g. using simple maps and graphs. The concepts and processes introduced in this topic are carefully chosen to support learning throughout the remainder of KS3 and KS4, for example, introducing physical characteristics of Africa now as students learn about human characteristics of Africa in year 8. The lessons are designed to challenge common misconceptions.

Sequence summary:

1. Introduction to Geography – physical, human, environmental
2. Oceans and Continents – knowing locations of key features
3. Africa – physical characteristics
4. South America – beyond rainforests
5. North America – Is the USA a superpower?
6. Oceania – the value of coral reefs
7. Asia – research and group work skills
8. Oceans – why are oceans so important?
9. Globalisation – how is the world becoming more inter connected?
10. Latitude and Longitude – how can we locate places around the world?

Key Vocabulary:

- Human and Physical – all geography is divided into these disciplines throughout KS3,4 and 5
- Adaptation – how plants, animals and people have developed special features to survive in different environments
- Globalisation – how the world's countries are more inter connected than ever before

Assessments: Regular recall and retrieval tasks on whiteboards throughout each lesson to check understanding and dispel misconceptions. End of unit knowledge based test.

Able and interested: Watch 'Race Across the World' and the 'Planet Earth' series on BBC Iplayer to see a variety amazing places and people around the world.

Inclusion, Personal Development and Wider Skills: Tasks are scaffolded to build confidence. Students will learn to challenge stereotypes about different people around the world. Students are introduced to and given the opportunity to practise a range of skills such as map reading, interpreting photographs and using graphs.

Homework and Independent Learning: Homework is set fortnightly from a bank of options designed to fit alongside the topic. Homework tasks are designed to cover a variety of options, some of which are more creative. Students can challenge themselves to have a go at some more challenging tasks, as well as some more scaffolded tasks.