Year 10
Subject: Geography
Topic/Unit: The living world
When: HT5

Huntington School
Learn and succeed

Overview: The aims of this unit are to develop an understanding of the biological and meteorological processes and features in different environments, and the need for management strategies governed by sustainability and consideration of the direct and indirect effects of human interaction with the Earth and the atmosphere.

Why this? Why now? Students are introduced to the idea of climate change where they study the threats to our planet in HT1 of Y9 and Ecosystems in HT5 & 6. This unit revisits those concepts through the lens of the GCSE requirements and revises their knowledge and applies it to GCSE exam questions. Following on from ecosystems, they learn about a specific cold environment as a contrasting environment to the topical rainforest.

Building on…building to: This builds on knowledge acquired in KS3 and applies it to the demands of the GCSE specification. It is the foundations required for studying the carbon cycle in Year 13.

Sequence summary:

- Ecosystems - Tropical rainforest ecosystems have a range of distinctive characteristics.
- Deforestation has economic and environmental impacts in Malaysia
- Tropical rainforests need to be managed to be sustainable.
- Climate change is the result of natural and human factors and has a range of effects.
- Managing climate change involves both mitigation (reducing causes) and adaptation (responding to change)
- The characteristics and biodiversity of Alaska as a cold environment
- How the development of a cold environment creates challenges and opportunities
- The value of cold environments as a wilderness and how it may be protected

Key Vocabulary:

- Ecosystem - A community of plants and animals that interact with each other and their physical environment.
- Adaptation **-** Actions taken to adjust to natural events such as climate change, to reduce potential damage, limit the impacts, take advantage of opportunities, or cope with the consequences.
- Mitigation - proactive actions taken to reduce or prevent the long-term risks, severity, and negative impacts of natural hazards and events such as climate change
- Fragile environment - An environment that is both easily disturbed and difficult to restore

Assessments: Regular recall and retrieval tasks on whiteboards throughout each lesson to check understanding and dispel misconceptions. End of unit assessment exam questions from past papers.

Able and interested: Watch *Climate Change – The Facts* on BBC iPlayer presented by Sir David Attenborough. It sets out the scientific consensus on global warming and the devastating consequences of unchecked carbon emissions whilst suggesting the technological solutions required to avert environmental catastrophe. Watch National Geographic's *Deforestation* which provides an in-depth breakdown of the intentional, permanent clearing of forested land. It highlights how forest clearance disrupts global climates, destroys biodiversity, and fundamentally alters landscapes.

Inclusion, Personal Development and Wider Skills: Tasks are scaffolded to build confidence. Longer exam questions are explicitly broken down into sections

Homework and Independent Learning: Homework is set weekly. Tasks may include completing graphs, interpreting maps and graphs, creating revision material and answering exam questions