Fieldwork toolkit: Fieldwork opportunities

This resource is part of the Fieldwork toolkit that supports our GCSE Geography specification (8035)

Fieldwork opportunities arising from the new specification

It is important to remember that content from one part of the specification may be applicable to another part of the specification and can be examined through fieldwork in a location other than that specified, e.g. there are tourism related fieldwork opportunities evident in 3.1.3.4 Glacial landscapes in the UK, but these concepts can also be examined in coastal or other locations.

There are also opportunities to use content from part of the specification at a different scale from that specified, e.g. there are numerous urban field opportunities in 3.2.1 Urban challenges in the UK that can be investigated in urban areas that are not major cities within the UK.

Centres can base the fieldwork on the geographical concepts rather than the specified locations.

3.1.1.3 Weather hazards
   • A weather hazard experienced in the UK.
   • An extreme weather event experienced in the UK.

3.1.1.4 Climate change
   • Alternative energy production.
   • Changing agricultural systems.
   • Managing water supply.
   • Reducing risk from rising sea levels.

3.1.2 The Living world
   • Small scale ecosystem

3.1.3.2 Coastal landscapes in the UK
   • Impact of wave types and characteristics.
   • Mass movement and its impact
• Erosion and impact
• Longshore drift
• Deposition and impact
• Landforms linked to geology
• Erosional landforms
• Depositional landforms
• Coastal management:
  o Hard engineering
  o Soft engineering
  o Managed retreat.
• Management strategies – effects and/or consequences

3.1.3.3 River landscapes in the UK
• Long profile
• Cross profile
• Erosion
• Transport
• Deposition
• Erosional landforms
• Depositional landforms
• River management:
  o Hard engineering
  o Soft engineering
  o Flood management scheme.

3.1.3.4 Glacial landscapes in the UK
• Erosion
• Transport
• Deposition
• Erosional landforms
• Depositional landforms
• Land use in glacial area
• Conflicts
• Development
• Conservation
• Tourism:
  o Attractions
  o Impacts
  o Strategies for managing impacts.

3.2.1 Urban issues and challenges
• Migration

• Urban change, opportunities: social and economic
  o Cultural
  o Recreation and entertainment
  o Employment
  o Transport
  o Urban greening
  o Environmental

• Urban change, challenges: social and economic
  o Deprivation
  o Housing inequalities
  o Education inequalities
  o Health inequalities
  o Employment inequalities
  o Dereliction
  o Building on brownfield and greenfield sites
  o Waste
Impact of urban sprawl

- Urban regeneration
- Sustainable urban living: water and waste conservation
  - Waste recycling
  - Creating green space
  - Transport strategies
  - Reducing traffic congestion.

3.2.2 The changing economic world
- Causes of economic change
- Industrial decline
- Impact of government policies on an area
- Development of service industries
- Development of science and business parks
- Impacts of industry on the physical environment
- Modern industrial development that is environmentally sustainable
- Social and economic changes in the rural landscape
- Population change (growth and/or decline) in a rural area
- Transport improvements
- New transport developments
- Impact of government strategies
- Links with the wider world.

3.2.3 The challenge of resource management

3.2.3.1 Resource management
- Demands for high-value food
- Carbon footprints – food miles
- Agribusinesses
- Demand for water
• Water quality
• Water pollution management
• Supply and demand
• Water transfer scheme
• Growing significance of renewable energy
• Economic issues associated with exploitation of energy sources
• Environmental issues associated with exploitation of energy sources

3.2.3.2 Food
• Large scale agricultural development
• Organic farming
• Urban farming initiatives

3.2.3.3 Water
• Diverting supplies
• Increasing storage
• Dams and reservoirs
• Water transfer scheme – advantages and disadvantages
• Water conservation

3.2.3.4 Energy
• Renewable energy sources
• Fossil fuel extraction – advantages and disadvantages
• Sustainable energy future
• Carbon footprints
• Energy conservation
• Home/work/transport strategies to reduce demand