Ravens Wood School

KS3 Curriculum Plan

Natural hazards and natural disasters; earth structure; plate tectonics ; structure of a volcano; Mt Merapi; measuring earthquakes; Christchurch; Prepare and protect

Subject:

Terrifying Tectonics

Overarching Topic: Terrifying Tectonics			
Why is this topic being studied at this time? How does it fit into the wider subject curriculum?	Tectonics is a key geographical module that pupils get a huge amount of enjoyment from. This is the main reason why we chose to teach it at the beginning of year 8. It hooks and gets pupils engaged for the rest of the academic term. It is also an important topic to study because pupils can understand the impact that physical processes have on the human environment. This is a physical geography topic, whereby we can weave skills throughout the content e.g impacts of case studies and getting pupils to develop their point using the 'so what' technique. As this topic is not taught in GCSE, there is no content repetition.		
	Critical	**Core**	**Pinnacle**
The Big Questions (What questions will students be able to answer upon mastery of the topic?)	• Define a natural hazard and a natural disaster • What are the layers of the earth? • What are the different plate boundaries? • What is the structure of a volcano? • What are the dangers of a volcano? • What are the dangers of an earthquake? • How can you prepare yourself for an earthquake?	• What is the difference between a natural hazard and a natural disaster • What are the characteristics of the layers of the earth? • What hazards occur on which plate boundary? Why? • Causes and effects of a volcano – case study Mt Merapi • Identify the difference between primary and secondary impacts • Measuring an earthquake • Causes and effects of an earthquake – case study Christchurch • How can you adapt building to reduce the effects of an earthquake?	Does the level of development in a country, effect the level of impact? What's the difference between a P and S wave? When is the next super volcano? Will we survive it? Why are the Hawaiian islands all formed from volcanic activity but are in the middle of a plate boundary?
The Key Skills/ Techniques	**The sophistication and application of skills will become more advanced as students' progress through the critical, core and pinnacle knowledge.**		
	Skill/Technique	**How will this skill be developed?**	

	Statistical Skills	Working out the mean, mode, median and range with regards to impacts. Relationships in graphs
	Graphical Skills	Use maps and photographs to understand impacts
	Map Skills	Recognise and describe distributions and patterns of both human and physical features e.g Identifying the location of earthquakes and volcanos Describe site, situation and shape of settlements
	Exam skills – Use of specific information e.g case studies	.Opportunities for individual research Extended writing using scaffolding and example answers Identifying the difference between describe and explain