



Subject: Endangered Ecosystems – Coral Reefs

Overarching Topic: Endangered Ecosystems			
<p>Why is this topic being studied at this time?</p> <p>How does it fit into the wider subject curriculum?</p>	<p>Earth has a wide variety of ecosystems which maintain its function and make it wondrous. Humans are part of these ecosystems and should be living in harmony with other organisms to create a sustainable future and a healthy planet. This unit will enable students to be in awe of our natural world and discover the variety of biomes and ecosystems which exist. Students will link previous work on climate change to understanding the complexity of the world's most diverse marine ecosystems – coral reefs. The impacts of anthropogenic activity on the reefs and strategies to sustainably manage them will be assessed. Students will complete this topic with the skills to examine their own actions and their impact on global ecosystems.</p>		
	Essential	Core	Ambitious
<p>The Big Questions (What questions will students be able to answer upon mastery of the topic?)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Where are coral reefs found? What are coral reefs like? What is a benefit and a service of a coral reef? Where is an example of a coral reef? How can we as humans impact coral reefs? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Where are coral reefs distributed and what are their characteristics? What are the threats to coral reefs? How can coral reefs be sustainably managed? How is plastic damaging the world's oceans? 	<p>Should tourists be allowed to visit coral reefs or should they be banned to allow them to recover?</p>
<p>The Key Skills/ Techniques</p>	<p>The sophistication and application of skills will become more advanced as students' progress through the essential, core and ambitious knowledge</p>		
	<p>Skill/Technique</p>	<p>How will this skill be developed?</p>	
	<p>Graphical Skills</p>	<p>Use graphs and charts to investigate climate graphs, loss of coral reefs and quantities of plastics in the oceans.</p>	
<p>Map Skills</p>	<p>Use maps to investigate the distribution of biomes and ecosystems globally.</p>		

	Exam skills – Use of specific information e.g case studies	Analysis of resources linking to topic content. Extended writing using scaffolding and example answers . Evaluating impacts and viability of coral reefs.
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