

Subject	Year 10 Threshold Concepts	How to support students' learning
Geography	Autumn Term 2026	
The Living World	Lesson 1: How do ecosystems work? ✓ Describe features of UK ecosystems. ✓ Explain how energy moves in an ecosystem ✓ Describe how materials are recycled in ecosystems Lesson 2: What are the links in a small-scale pond ecosystem? ✓ Describe the inter-relations in a freshwater pond. ✓ Explain the impact of humans on freshwater ponds. ✓ Outline how invasive species have affected ecosystems. Lesson 3: What are the biomes of the world? ✓ To describe and explain the global distribution of the world's biomes. ✓ To draw and interpret a climate graph for the equatorial climate. Lesson 4: What are the features of tropical rainforests? ✓ To describe the structure of the tropical rainforest and key characteristics of each layer.	Try this Quizlet to learn the key terms connected to ecosystems: Ecosystems Flashcards Quizlet Use The Wildlife Trusts guide to 'How to build a pond' to create an informative poster on the biotic and abiotic features of a small-scale ecosystem How to build a pond The Wildlife Trusts Watch the BBC Teach video clip on 'Food Chains' Food Chains Biology – Life Lessons - YouTube Complete this quiz! https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/guides/zwh9j6f/test

	✓ To explain interdependence within the tropical rainforest. ✓ To explain how plants and animals have adapted to the rainforest climate and environment. ✓ To explain the importance of the tropical rainforest ecosystem. Lesson 5: What is happening to the Amazon Rainforest? ✓ To describe the rate of deforestation in the Amazon. ✓ To explain a variety of social-economic causes of deforestation. ✓ To assess the impact of deforestation ✓ To explain how we can manage rainforests sustainably, at local, national and international scales. Lesson 6: What are the features of hot deserts? ✓ To describe the global spread (distribution) of hot deserts. ✓ To describe and explain the climate in hot desert areas. ✓ To describe and explain plant and animal adaptations that help them survive in the hostile climate. ✓ To explain interdependence within the desert biome (e.g. desert food web).	Watch the BBC Teach video clips on 'Rainforests' Rainforests Geography - Ecosystems and Biomes - YouTube and 'Food Chains' Food Chains Biology – Life Lessons - YouTube Debate: How can rainforests be managed sustainably so that people can make money from them now, and will still be able to in the future? Watch the following video clips about types of sustainable management and write down 3-5 ideas: • Ecotourism – Eco-tourism a \$7 billion per year boon for Brazil - YouTube • Selective logging and replanting – Sustainable Logging National Geographic - YouTube • Ecotourism – Eco-tourism a \$7 billion per year boon for Brazil - YouTube • Selective logging and replanting – Sustainable Logging National Geographic - YouTube • Conservation and education – THE RAINFOREST ALLIANCE: CONSERVATION & BIODIVERSITY - YouTube • International agreements – Norway Threatens to Cut Aid to Brazil Over Deforestation Time • Debt reduction - US Enters Debt-for-Nature Swap With Indonesia - YouTube Watch the video clips and make notes on the how people, plants and animals have adapted to be able to survive the harsh arid conditions of the desert. • David Attenborough on the World's Deserts - David Attenborough on the World's Deserts - YouTube • Desert Adaptations - Desert Adaptations - YouTube • BBC Teach Deserts - Deserts Geography - Ecosystems and Biomes - YouTube
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	Lesson 7: What are the challenges and opportunities in the Sahara Desert? ✓ To describe opportunities for development in the Sahara Desert. ✓ To explain how climate can create challenges in the Sahara Desert. ✓ To evaluate the balance between the challenges and opportunities of inhabiting a hostile environment. Lesson 8: What is desertification? ✓ To describe the location of areas with a high risk of desertification. ✓ To explain the physical and human causes of desertification. ✓ To explain the effects of drought and desertification (social, economic and environmental). ✓ To evaluate how land management and appropriate technology can help to tackle the problem of desertification.	You can view the full episode of 'Africa 5. Sahara' on BBC iPlayer - Africa - 5. Sahara Complete the Desert test questions on the BBC Bitesize: https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/guides/zpnq6fr/test Read the information on the United Nations website about strategies to combat desertification World Day to Combat Desertification and Drought United Nations and lead a discussion on the importance of 17th June as 'World Day to Combat Desertification and Drought'
Subject Geography	Year 10 Threshold Concepts Autumn Term 2026	How to support students' learning
Urban Issues and Challenges - Birmingham	Lesson 1: What makes Birmingham a major UK city? ✓ To describe the location of Birmingham ✓ To explain what attracts people to Birmingham ✓ To describe Birmingham's importance as a regional, national and international city.	Explore characteristics of the UK - population density: https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/guides/z9y47hv/revision/1 Describe the distribution of population in the United Kingdom and identify the location of major UK cities: Distribution of population and the major cities in the UK - Internet Geography Try this quiz to test how well you understands what a rural or urban area is like:

	Lesson 2: How can urban change in Birmingham created opportunities? ✓ To describe how international migration has changed Birmingham. ✓ To explain how urban change has created socio-economic opportunities ✓ To evaluate the variety of opportunities in Birmingham Lesson 3: How can urban change in the UK lead to a variety of challenges? ✓ To describe the challenges people face in the city of Birmingham. ✓ To explain the causes of deprivation in Birmingham. ✓ To assess the deprivation levels in two contrasting areas of Birmingham. Lesson 4: How can urban change in Birmingham affect the environment? ✓ To explain how urban change has created environmental opportunities ✓ To investigate environmental challenges in Birmingham.	GCSE Geography Characterisation of rural areas, countryside ecosystem (educationquizzes.com) Study the maps and graphs on this website and discuss what they show about trends in urban areas around the world Urbanization - Our World in Data Study the BBC Bitesize resources on urban change in Birmingham and then try the revision quiz: Urban stability case study - Birmingham - Urban change in the UK - AQA - GCSE Geography Revision - AQA - BBC Bitesize
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	Lesson 5: What is urban regeneration? ✓ To describe why the Jewellery Quarter declined. ✓ To define urban regeneration. ✓ To describe changes to the Jewellery Quarter (regeneration projects). ✓ To assess the impacts of urban regeneration projects in Birmingham. Lesson 6: DME – Urban Regeneration ✓ To demonstrate geographical skills. ✓ To apply knowledge and understanding to an issue. This module is continued into the summer term	Use this Quizlet to revise how Birmingham Jewellery quarter has been regenerated Urban resurgence Birmingham Flashcards Quizlet Try this exam question - "Using an UK example you have studied, suggest how a regeneration project can solve urban problems. [9 marks] Re-cap and familiarise yourself with urban regeneration key terminology – make flash cards to review at home
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