

Unit 1: Living with the physical environment

Section B: Living World

Topic: Cold Environments (3)

Unit content: RAG the following throughout, or at the end of the unit.	R	A	G
Cold environments (polar and tundra) have a range of distinctive characteristics			
The physical characteristics of a cold environment			
The interdependence of climate, permafrost, soils, plants, animals and people.			
How plants adapt to the physical conditions.			
How animals adapt to the physical conditions.			
Issues related to biodiversity.			
Development of cold environments creates opportunities and challenges.			
A case study of a cold environment to illustrate:			
1. development opportunities in cold environments:			
• mineral extraction			
• energy			
• fishing			
• tourism			
2. challenges of developing cold environments:			
• extreme temperature			
• inaccessibility			
• provision of buildings			
• infrastructure			
Cold environments are at risk from economic development.			
The value of cold environments as wilderness areas.			
Why should these fragile environments be protected?			
Strategies used to balance the needs of economic development and conservation in cold environments:			
• use of technology			
• role of governments			
• international agreements			
• conservation groups			
Unit skills	R	A	G
ICT skills (Word, PowerPoint, Research...)			
Map skills			
High quality literacy skills (can you write with sophisticated fluency?)			
Interpreting data and trends			
High quality evaluation skills (balanced arguments and your own opinions)			
Ability to think synoptically (using content from a range of topics and units)			
Other:	R	A	G

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Understand the meaning of common command words like describe, explain, analyse			
P.E.E.L Technique			