Knowledge Organiser for Geography **Class Two**

Umbrella question

How can we help our environment?

Hinge Questions
What is waste?
What does reduce, reuse and recycle mean?
What impact do humans have on the earth?
Are there better ways of powering our world?
How can we help make a more sustainable world?
Which is the best location for a new waste disposal site?



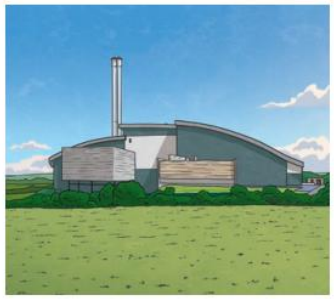
Key Vocab	
Environment	The surroundings or conditions in which a person, animal, or plant lives. It includes natural elements like air, water, and land.
Conservation	The protection and careful management of natural resources, such as forests, water, and wildlife, to prevent them from being lost or wasted.
Recycle	The process of converting waste materials into new materials or products. This helps reduce the amount of rubbish and saves natural resources.
Pollution	The introduction of harmful substances or products into the environment, which can damage natural habitats and harm living creatures.
Sustainability	The practice of using resources in a way that meets current needs while ensuring that future generations can also benefit from them. It involves balancing economic, social, and environmental factors.

Key Learning

Waste can come from many sources, like rubbish from our homes, packaging from products, and leftovers of food. When we don't dispose of waste properly, it can harm wildlife and pollute our land and water. This then affects not only animals and plants but also our own health. To help reduce waste, communities can recycle materials like paper, plastic, and glass, compost food scraps, and try to use less single-use packaging. We can all play a part by remembering to reduce, reuse, and recycle. It's our responsibility to take care of the environment, and every small action counts in making a big difference for our planet!

Waste and Where It Goes

The amount of **waste** produced around the world has increased rapidly as the global population has grown. **Waste** comes in many different forms and includes food, packaging, clothing, single-use items and electronics (e-waste).


Waste is sometimes buried below ground at **landfill** sites where some of it will eventually **decompose** or it can be burnt at an **energy** recovery facility. Lots of **waste** materials (including paper, glass, plastics, metals and textiles) can be **recycled**. **Recycling** reduces **waste**, saves **energy** and preserves resources.

Waste can contribute to many different environmental issues including **pollution**, the using up of **non-renewable** resources, habitat loss and **climate change**.

Litter and Pollution





When waste gets into the environment through litter and **pollution**, it can have a negative effect on **biodiversity**. For example, animals can be injured by eating or becoming trapped in litter and plant health and growth can be affected.

Fumes from factories and vehicles cause air **pollution**, which can lead to respiratory problems. **Waste** gases in fumes can also alter Earth's atmosphere and contribute to **climate change**. Trees and other plants can help improve air quality by filtering out toxic substances. They also naturally remove carbon dioxide from the atmosphere, having a positive effect on Earth's climate and **biodiversity**.

Waste and Energy

Nearly everything we use takes **energy** to make. When we **waste** items, the **energy** used to make them is wasted too. In the past, the UK relied heavily on **non-renewable energy** to generate electricity but now more **renewable energy** is being used. This **energy** is cleaner for the environment and more **sustainable**. We can play a part by reducing our **energy** use and **waste**.






Water Waste

In many areas around the world, people face water shortages. Saving water by trying to reduce our **water consumption** where possible will also help save **energy**.