

'The Aspiring Geographer'

KS4/5



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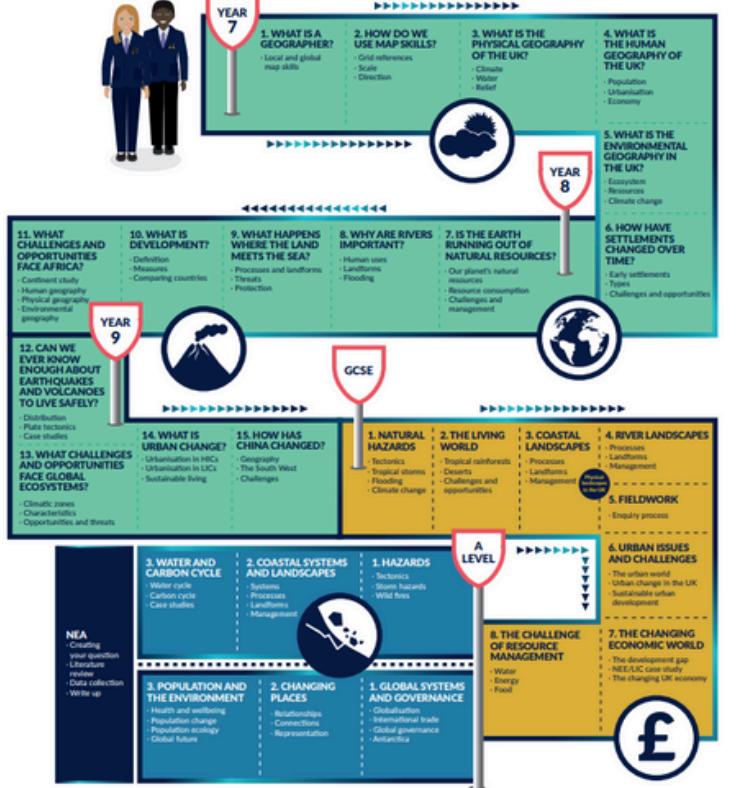


Inspiring lives through learning

'The Aspiring Geographer'



GEOGRAPHY



'The Aspiring Geographer'



Geography isn't just about maps or mountains it's about making sense of the world around us. Whether it's understanding why wildfires are becoming more frequent, how cities grow and change, or what drives patterns of migration, geography helps us ask the right questions and find meaningful answers.

This project is about sparking curiosity and giving you the tools to explore big ideas. Geography gives you a valid voice in conversations that really matter climate change, global inequality, conflict, sustainability. It helps you understand how the world came to be as it is, and imagine how it could be better.

At university, geography is one of the few subjects you can study as both a science (BSc) and an art (BA). It allows you to follow your own interests from climate science to geopolitics and shape your learning to match your passions. But to stand out, it helps to go beyond the classroom.

Some great ways to develop your skills include:

- Entering competitions
- Watching or listening to geography talks, lectures, or podcasts
- Gaining geography-related work experience
- Taking on your own research or completing an EPQ
- Reading widely and exploring new perspectives

I can't wait to see where geography takes you.

Mrs R Spooner
Head of Geography

Reading list



Geopolitics and Inequality

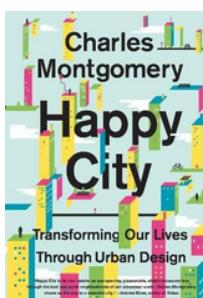
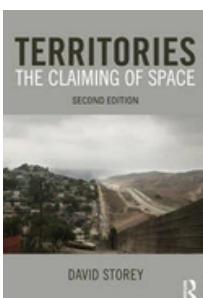
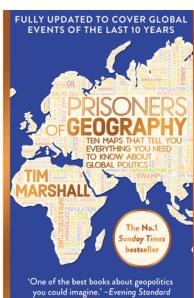
- Tim Marshall – ‘Prisoners of Geography’
- Tim Marshall – ‘Divided: We are living in an age of walls’
- Hans Rosling – ‘Factfulness’
- Paul Collier – ‘The bottom Billion’
- Saskia Sassen – ‘Explusions’
- David Storey – ‘Territory: The claiming of space’

Water and Carbon Cycles

- Mike Hulme – ‘Why we disagree about climate change’ Hulme-Carbon-Yearbook.pdf (mikehulme.org)
- Mike Berners-Lee – ‘There is no Planet B’
- Mike Berners-Lee – ‘How bad are bananas?’
- James Hansen – ‘Storms of my grandchildren’
- James Lovelock- ‘The vanishing face of Gaia’
- Mark Lynas – ‘Six degrees’
- Stephen Halliday – ‘Water a turbulent history’

Space and Place

- Harm de Blij – ‘The Power of Place’
- Bill Bryson – ‘Notes from a small island’
- Charles Montgomery – ‘Happy City’
- Winifred Gallagher – ‘The power of place: How our surroundings shape thoughts, emotions and action’
- Doreen Massey – ‘For Space’



Competitions



**Royal
Geographical
Society**
with IBG

Advancing geography
and geographical learning

[Home](#) > [Competitions](#) > School Essay C...

School Essay Competition

The School Essay Competition, organised in partnership with the Financial Times, invites students to answer a topical geographical question.



Royal Geographical Society School Essay competition

Open to all A Level Geographers (16+).

This year's essay: ***What are the environmental costs of current consumer trends, behaviours and purchasing decisions?***

www.rgs.org/schools/competitions/school-essay-competition

Geography Essay Competition.

Minds Underground Essay Competition

The Minds Underground™ Geography Essay Competition is aimed at students in Year 12 (though younger applicants are welcome, as well as Year 13 re-applicants to university). The competition provides students with an opportunity to engage in university-level research, hone their writing skills and contribute to the climate discussion.

Entrants must choose one question to answer.

www.mindsunderground.com/geography-competition

Listen and Watch



Podcasts



Geogpod

Each episode, our host John Lyon will be chatting to a guest from within the geography community and discussing their work and areas of interest



Ted Climate

We get it. You care about the climate crisis—but sometimes thinking about it is just too overwhelming. Well, we're here to help with that. Host Dan Kwartler unpacks the problems and solutions behind big systemic issues in bite-sized episodes



UN Interviews

UN News interviews a wide range of people from senior news-making officials at Headquarters in New York, to advocates and beneficiaries from across the world who have a stake in helping the UN go about its often life-saving work in the field.



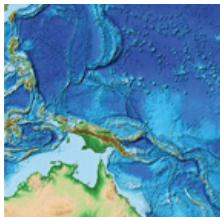
80 days: An Exploration Podcast

80 Days is a podcast dedicated to exploring little-known countries, territories settlements and cities around the world. We're part history podcast, part geography podcast and part ramble.

Listen and Watch

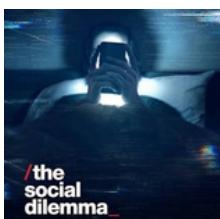


Films/YouTube/TV



Geographics (YouTube)

Geographics: Discovering the world, one place at a time. Learn about places from around the world and beyond.



The Social Dilemma (Netflix)

A Documentary film exploring the influence of social media on individuals and societies. Showing how technology can be a great driver of change in the 21st century.



Before the Flood

We went to every corner of the globe to document the devastating impacts of climate change and questioned humanity's ability to reverse what may be the most catastrophic problem mankind has ever faced.

Listen and Watch



Social media

@CECHR_UoD: Centre for Environmental Change & Human Resilience (University of Dundee (UK)). Posts content pertaining to renewable energy, software tools for analyzing green energy use, and general content about resource use.

@AmateurTraveler: Chris Christensen. Chris runs one of the best travel sites on the Internet. Interviews with world travellers provides fascinating content for any geography course and he travels constantly himself.

@PewJournalism/@PewResearch: "Nonpartisan, non-advocacy @pewresearch data on the state of news and information in a changing society." Pew publishes interesting polls and research which can lead to creating some interesting graphics and maps for class projects.

@EconTalker: Russ Roberts. Russ Roberts is the host of the weekly podcast, "EconTalk." A great stop for all things economics and Geography.

@ForeignPolicy: Foreign policy and geopolitics is all about geography. The more we learn about people and the conditions we create the better choices and decisions we can make.

@futureguru: Dr. James Canton. Dr. Canton tweets good content, from the use of GIS for publishing maps on the web, analysis of Davos meetings, to the impacts of loans and leadership styles on local and regional politics.

@wef: World Economic Forum. The World Economic Forum tweets graphs, charts, maps pertaining to a host of global topics such as age groups, green energy, the economic impact of global cities, gender, and corruption.

Work Experience and Events



'Geography' work experience can take many forms and cover a wide range of industries. Few people get to call themselves 'Geographers' but relevant experience can be found in organisations offering a plethora of opportunities.

Places to look for experience:

- Quantity surveying
- Architectural office
- Environment agency
- Service supplies (e.g. energy/water)
- Rural land management offices (often attached to estate agents)
- Council planning offices
- Insurance
- Hazards management teams
- Logistics organisations
- Canal and river trust
- Nature reserves/National Trust organisations

The range of careers Geography can lead you to is endless and as such this list is just some suggestions. Competitive courses at university want you to be committed to the subject in all aspects and completing work experience of any length and these or other related businesses will always be helpful.

For any further advice please speak to Mrs G Martin, Careers Leader.

Work Experience and Events



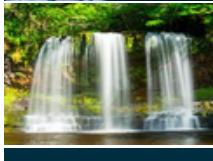
[Environment Agency Opportunities | Springpod](#)

Virtual Work Experience designed to introduce you to the Environment Agency's flood and coastal risk management responsibilities, and career pathways.



[Geography Subject Spotlight | Springpod](#)

Dr Tess Osborne and Dr Matt Wilde explore the causes, consequences and potential solutions to climate change.



[Environment: Understanding Atmospheric and Ocean Flows | OpenLearn | Open University](#)

You will learn how global flows of water, heat and pollution are affecting the Arctic region and changing our world.



British Geological Survey

[Work Experience | British Geological Survey](#)

We will be offering three work experience schemes that have been tailored for students at various stages of their education.



[Work Experience Directory | RGS](#)

The Royal Geographica directory provides a useful list of school, undergraduate, recent graduate and postgraduate work placements and volunteering experiences in various sectors.



[Work Experience | Gloucestershire Wildlife Trust](#)

Work experience week with Gloucestershire Wildlife Trust is a great way to develop skills while learning more about wildlife.



breakfast lectures



The Careers Team at Bournside deliver regular Inspire Breakfast Lectures. Open to students in Year 10 - 13, these business-focused breakfasts invite speakers from all corners of industry to share their professional experiences and valuable insights with Bournside students over breakfast; opening our eyes to the opportunities available across many industry sectors.

[Take a look at upcoming speakers and reserve your space here.](#)





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Zaragoza

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SPAIN

Cordoba

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Granada

Malaga

Gibraltar

Tangier

Rabat

Casablanca

Safid

Tetouan

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