

Unit Overview trilogy – Sustainability



You will learn about:

- **Geosphere** (resources from the earth)
- **Biosphere** (consequences of taking resources from the earth on biodiversity)
- **Atmosphere** (evolution of modern atmosphere and global warming)
- **Hydrosphere** (obtaining clean drinking water and dealing with sewage)

You will be able to:

- **Describe the impact human development has on our planet.**
- **Explain how humans can reduce this effect and how to live more sustainably in the future.**

Key learning points	Key Words
Using the Earth's resources and sustainable development	Sustainability Finite Renewable Pollutants Recycling Peat bogs Biodiversity Greenhouse gases Global warming Carbon footprint
<i>Alternative methods of extracting metals (HT only)</i>	
Life cycle assessment	
Waste management	
Ways of reducing the use of resources	
Land use	
Deforestation	
Biodiversity and the effect of human interaction on ecosystems	
Maintaining biodiversity	
The composition and evolution of the Earth's atmosphere	
The Earth's early atmosphere	
How oxygen increased & how carbon dioxide decreased	
Greenhouse gases	
Human activities which contribute to an increase in greenhouse gases in the atmosphere	
Global climate change/ global warming	
The carbon footprint and its reduction	
Atmospheric pollutants from fuels	
Properties and effects of atmospheric pollutants	
Potable water	
Waste water treatment	
Links to other subjects: SMSC: Understand and appreciate the impacts of human development on the environment and describe the effects that this is having. Literacy: Describe observations in practical work. Write methods Numeracy: make simple calculations, Use ratios	