

Investigating Rivers

Geography

Year 5/6

Lesson 3 of 6

Learning Objective		Resources
To find out why rivers are important.		Slides Worksheet 3A Picture Cards Books, internet, magazines, etc. A4 paper Topic Headings (FSD? activity only) Large sheets of paper (FSD? activity only)
Teaching Input		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Why are rivers important to people? What uses do they have? Ask children to think, pair, share their ideas. Display the headings on the board: water, transport, habitat, energy, farming, leisure. Where do the uses you thought of fit under these headings? Go through the slides explaining briefly some of the uses under these headings. What river is close to where you live? What do you use that river for? Did you know the River Thames is an important river in England? Is this close to where you live? Explain to your class how the River Thames is used by the people in England. Which use for a river do you think is most important? What would happen if we didn't have rivers? Tell children that today they will be researching some of these uses. Where might you find the information you need? 		
Main Activity		
<p><u>Lower ability:</u></p> <p>Provide children with a range of information sources e.g. books, the internet, magazines, Picture Cards, etc. Ask children to use the information they have found out to complete the fact file on worksheet 3A.</p>	<p><u>Middle ability:</u></p> <p>Provide children with a range of information sources e.g. books, the internet, Picture Cards, magazines, etc. Ask children to use the information they have found out to create a fact file on river uses on a sheet of A4 paper.</p>	<p><u>Higher ability:</u></p> <p>Provide children with a range of information sources e.g. books, the internet, magazines, Picture Cards, etc. Ask children to use the information they have found out to create an information book on river uses. Fold three sheets of A4 paper in half and staple together to create a book. Children to create a page for each heading as listed on the board.</p>
Fancy something different...?		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Divide the class into six groups and give each group one of the Topic Headings to investigate: water, transport, habitat, energy, farming, leisure. Provide children with a range of information sources e.g. books, the internet, magazines, Picture Cards, etc. and a large sheet of paper. Ask children to create a mindmap showing all the information they have found out about their particular heading. EXTEND – encourage children to use as much geographical vocabulary as they can and to support their points with statistics, information on particular rivers, and any other specific data they can find. When all groups have finished their mindmap, invite one group at a time to share their work with the rest of the class. 		
Plenary	Assessment Questions	
<p>Ask children to share their work with a partner. Does your information match? Have you covered the correct points? What information did you find out that your partner didn't?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Can children describe some river uses? Can children use secondary sources to find out information? Can children support their points with statistics and specific data? 	