



GEOBYTES / ICT UPDATE

To: Mm/Sc/Ro/Mk/Mb/Cx

From: Cb

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GeoBytes Update

(Week beginning 30th January 2006):

"St Ivo Geographers go Global!"

Whose visited our site this week?

(GeoBytes Tracking Link....) - not quite as global this week – but good UK coverage!

- Manchester, England
- Middlesbrough, England
- Edinburgh, Scotland
- Clarksville, Maryland
- Peterborough, England
- Dundee, Scotland
- Durham, England
- Banbury, England



Photograph from www.geographyphotos.com



NEW RESOURCE: SUBSCRIPTION TO GEOGRAPHY PHOTOGRAPHS

We have now taken out a subscription for www.geographyphotos.com which gives us legal access to a whole range of fantastic geography photographs which we can use in powerpoints, presentations etc.. (just need to put source: www.geographyphotos.com where used). This is a searchable database of geographical photographs that can then be downloaded! ***This was the source of many of the photos used in the new Geography Year 9 Options Video***

SURNAME DISTRIBUTION MAPS!

A recent research project at the University of London has investigated the distribution of surnames – both current and historically to understand patterns of regional economic, population movement and cultural identity – put your surname in and get a map of distribution of your surname in 1881 and one in 1998 – makes quite fascinating viewing! Could be interesting for looking at migration!

I think this is fairly new and sometimes due to large numbers logging on you can't get on straight away; worth persevering though.

<http://www.spatial-literacy.org/UCLnames/default.aspx> (click on start a surname search – near the top)

Surname Profiler:
Surnames as a quantitative resource

Daryl Lloyd, Richard Webber and Paul Longley

The Laptops seem to be working well with VI form groups at the moment – we are now getting rid of the booking sheet in N18 and just using the booking sheet which is kept on top of the laptop trolley – please make bookings directly on here from Monday.

PLEASE REMEMBER TO PLUG TROLLEY BACK IN WHEN IT GOES BACK TO N12

OTHER NEWS:

KEY STAGE 3 CURRICULUM REVIEW! ***Important

QCA is undertaking a review of the Key Stage 3 curriculum as announced in the White Paper 14-19 Education and Skills (February 2005). The review will:

- reduce prescription increase flexibility
- ensure transition from Key Stage 2 and onto Key Stage 4
- advise on how to improve assessment in the foundation subjects.

There are due to be new programmes of study available for teaching in September 2007 and phased implementation with the first teaching of Year 7 in September 2008. In relation to this the GA has set up a KS3 Curriculum Consultation page aiming to get us much feedback on the Key Stage 3 curriculum as they can with your views and opinions – this can be accessed at www.geography.org.uk/consultation - it may well be worth a look!

New / Useful External Weblinks:

ENERGY

“No Obstacles to Atomic Option” – Article from the Guardian on Nuclear Energy

<http://business.guardian.co.uk/story/0,,1692580,00.html>

Renewable Energy – lots of great downloadable resources here – especially for teachers / use in schools – includes teacher’s notes, activity ideas and information cards

http://www.dti.gov.uk/renewables/schools/teachers/geography_programme.htm

GreenPeace Video – against Nuclear Power <http://www.greenpeace.org.uk/fridaythe13th/>

COASTS

Time-lapse Coastal erosion 2005-2006 – Suffolk Coast – this was a project set up to take regular photographs to look at the frightening rates of coastal erosion – flags were positioned to spell out a phrase – over time they have gradually disappeared as more land has been lost to the sea – you can download a video sequence here – or if you can’t get this to work see me as Val Vannet from Dundee High School has very kindly sent me a powerpoint she has made of the images which run like a movie – I used it this year with Year 12 and it had quite an impact <http://www.ifever.org.uk/camera/> (**well worth noting for next year’s teaching!**) – *great as a starter on coastal erosion!*

DISTANCES AND LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE

<http://www.wcrl.ars.usda.gov/cec/java/lat-long.htm> - a simple (and interesting) tool for calculating surface distances between two points of latitude and longitude – could be used with students to compare distances between places or just as a point of interest!

POPULATION – WORLD IN THE BALANCE (excellent for AS Population Unit)

Lots of interactive resources looking at the impact of forces that are radically changing populations in both rich and poor nations <http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/nova/worldbalance/>

In particular check out “Material World”

<http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/nova/worldbalance/material.html> - this fascinating section has photographs from 5 different countries showing families outside their homes with most of their possessions – great for comparisons and discussion!

POPULATION – FALLING BIRTH RATES IN EUROPE

Germany agonises over 30% childless women (Guardian Article) – useful for AS Population Unit (?) <http://www.guardian.co.uk/germany/article/0,,1695850,00.html>

HURRICANES (Year 7 Extreme Weather / Year 13 Synoptic)

An interactive guide to Hurricane Science and Safety for students

<http://meted.ucar.edu/hurricane/strike/>

NEW INTERACTIVE WHITEBOARD RESOURCES:

YEAR 9 OPTIONS VIDEO – if you haven't used this with your Year 9 groups – please see me for a copy. It plays through Windows Media Player to the Lightning Seeds "Life of Riley" – about 4 minutes in length. If you want I also have a PowerPoint you could talk through which has the relative % of the exams / coursework etc. See me whenever you would like it for (preferably with a memory pen!)

Year 7 – Weather – Photostory Starter

20 or so images related to the weather: ice, snow, rain, hurricanes, tornadoes, sun, clouds etc.. all set to the "Weather With you" Crowded House Music. (useful starter)

Year 9 / Year 10 – Plate Tectonics – Images Starter

Images related to earthquakes / volcanoes - runs as a short photostory (i.e. like a movie) – good for getting students thinking as they enter the room (see Cb)

Year 10 – Mount St Helens Powerpoint

Using the Boardworks Mount St Helens Powerpoint – but includes a direct link to Google Earth showing Mount St Helens (great file!) – remember you will need to have Google Earth loaded on your computer to play this.

Year 10 – Mount St Helens – Photostory starter

Includes images from the USGS images set – starting with images before the eruption – through to images of the eruption itself and the landscape afterwards. Images from: http://vulcan.wr.usgs.gov/Volcanoes/MSH/SlideSet/ljt_slideset.html See Cb for file (runs in Windows Media Player)