



GEOBYTES / ICT UPDATE

To: Mm/Sc/Ro/Mk/Mb/Cx St Ivo School Geography Department.

From: Cb

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GeoBytes Update

(Week beginning 17th April 2006):

"St Ivo Geographers go Global!"

Lots of visitors again, our International visitors this week include:

- April 11, 2006 3:00 pm: Geneva, Geneva
- April 11, 2006 8:00 am: Vienna, Wien
- April 10, 2006 5:56 pm: Corvallis, Oregon
- April 9, 2006 8:54 pm: Singapore, Singapore
- April 9, 2006 12:04 pm: Barrie, Ontario
- April 8, 2006 1:49 pm: Santa Ana, California
- April 8, 2006 7:25 am: Barrie, Ontario
- April 7, 2006 11:58 pm: Bangkok, Krung Thep Mahanakhon
- April 7, 2006 7:34 pm: Tunis, Tunis
- April 7, 2006 3:15 pm: Reston, Virginia

NEW THIS WEEK



DOODLE 4 GOOGLE COMPETITION

I'm sure you have seen the Google Doodles that seem to appear to celebrate key dates / anniversaries etc.. throughout the year. Well Google have launched their second Doodle4Google competition for 2006, called "My

Britain" - "My Britain' is a nationwide design competition open to the UK's 10 million school children. Young people are being invited to design a Google doodle explaining what it means to be British today. The winning doodle, which will be displayed on the Google UK homepage for 24 hours, will be seen by around 18 million people." - a very geographical theme – could be a homework after Easter?? More information for schools / registering / age groups / prizes etc.. on the website - I think the deadline is early July (details on the site) Enjoy! Remember it does require registration (by May 31st) if you are interested in the students taking part. There are examples above of last year's competition entries are below – to give you an idea of what I mean!



PHOTOMOSAICS

Great find by Little Miss – turning photographs into photo mosaics (made up of hundreds of other photographs) – a free tool for download – you set the photograph you want turned into the mosaic and decide on the photos you want to use to make up the mosaic – the computer does the rest –

AndreaMosaic



fantastic for display! Here's the Statue of Liberty and Times Square, two photos from our recent New York trip, transformed into mosaics using all the other photos from the trip! Very clever!

<http://www.andreaplanet.com/andreamosaic/>

Guide to making your own mosaics can be found here <http://www.engadget.com/2004/10/19/how-to-make-your-own-photo-mosaics/>



A new Geography forum has recently been set up for sharing resources / ideas <http://www.geographyforum.net/>

GEOGRAPHY IN THE NEWS (new section!)

A summary of some of the main “Geographical” news stories of the week:

8th April 2006 - More violent storms and Tornadoes hit the US

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/world/americas/4890342.stm> 10 people have been killed in Tennessee as the US has yet again been hit by violent storms and tornadoes. There has been a significant increase in the number of tornadoes to hit the US since the beginning of 2006 and according to this news article from the BBC "At the end of March, an estimated 286 tornadoes had hit the US, against an average of 70 for the same three-month period over the past three years."

8th April 2006 - Oxfam make further plea for aid for South Asia Earthquake

http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/world/south_asia/4890252.stm The BBC today reports on the continued need for aid 6 months after the South Asia earthquake - the death toll following last October's quake in Kashmir reached 70,000 and over 2 million were left homeless. Now the winter months are over, aid efforts are turning to reconstruction and rehabilitation of the area.

Zimbabwe has the lowest Life Expectancy A UN report has stated that Zimbabwe has the lowest life expectancy <http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/world/africa/4890508.stm> with men and women unlikely to live beyond the age of 40.

Heavy Rain in Drought Hit Kenya - Months of drought in Kenya have left much of the country in need of food - Heavy rain has today hit Northern and Eastern parts of Kenya, although due to the combination of the heavy rain and dry dusty land, flooding has caused havoc. The drought crisis is far from over though and much more rain is needed.

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/world/africa/4885344.stm> . For in-depth articles on Africa's food crisis, see the BBC's superb In Depth section on the African Food Crisis

http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/in_depth/africa/2006/africa_food_crisis/default.stm

City of Science is a crucible for Britain's Redevelopment - an article in the Independent on how Nottingham is trying to shrug off its image as "Crime Capital"

<http://www.timesonline.co.uk/article/0,,630-2126753.html>

Stark Warning over Climate Change – a BBC article on a new Government report stating that the world's temperatures are set to increase by 3°C

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/sci/tech/4888946.stm>

Britain Now Eating the Planet – in the news on Saturday 15th – how Britain has already used its share of resources and is now effectively dependent on using those of the rest of the world

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/sci/tech/4897252.stm> and on the same lines from the Guardian....

Easter Sunday – the day we started living off of the rest of the world

<http://business.guardian.co.uk/story/0,,1754290,00.html>

New / Useful External Weblinks:

Many of these have been highlighted by SLNers on the Online Forum.

CLIMATE CHANGE

CLIMATE CHANGE – Flash Game (Thanks Val!) – watch out for the buxom blond and the sheep breaking wind! <http://www.glasgowsciencecentre.org/kids/games/ccc/>

CLIMATE CHANGE INFORMATION / TEACHING RESOURCES – another find from Val – on the Learning and Teaching Scotland website <http://www.ltscotland.org.uk/climatechange/>

GAMES

Creating Sliding Puzzles from Images – a nifty little internet tool for creating sliding puzzles from any photograph that you upload – I am going to look into whether these can be integrated into website <http://www.slidingpuzzle.com/upload.html> (thanks to Alan for link)

Geography Arcade Games – some quirky little Arcade Games based on “What is Geography” concepts for Year 7 – e.g. defining Human / Physical / Environmental Geography – thanks to Russell Tarr of Active Geography
http://www.activegeography.co.uk/yr7_geography/1_what_is_geography.htm

INDUSTRY / EMPLOYMENT

Employment Types Game (Good for IWB) – useful for Year 8 Industry – or even a quick recap higher up the school! Involves sorting jobs into the different employment categories (primary / secondary / Tertiary) (Russell Tarr – Active Geography)
http://www.activegeography.co.uk/flash/dustbin/yr7_employments.html

Global Fashion Industry (Global) – case study on the Global Fashion Industry (thanks little miss!) http://www.globaleye.org.uk/secondary_summer/focuson/case-fash.html

RIVERS

RIVER DATA FROM AROUND THE WORLD <http://www.grdc.sr.unh.edu/>

SUSTAINABILITY

GLOBAL CITIZENSHIP – an interesting set of worksheets from Oxfam on Global Citizenship
http://www.oxfam.org.uk/coolplanet/teachers/getglobal/steps_worksheets.pdf

FACING THE FUTURE – Lesson plans for teaching about global issues / sustainability etc.
<http://www.teacherscorner.org/activities.html>

ECOLOGICAL AND CARBON FOOTPRINTS – An RGS mini-site on ecological and carbon footprints – includes teaching resources / ideas and even a scheme of work
<http://www.esd.rgs.org/>

GLOBALISATION OF WASTE – A number of resources related to waste / recycling:

- Talking Rubbish (Geography in the News – RGS)
<http://www.geographyinthenews.rgs.org/news/article/?id=540>
- Exports of Waste must double to reach target (Telegraph Article)
<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/main.jhtml?xml=/news/2006/04/11/nrecyc11.xml>
- Transnational Movement of Waste (RGS Conference) – links to conference materials (including powerpoints) <http://www.rgs.org/category.php?Page=mainevents>

URBAN STUDIES

URBAN REGENERATION – Bradford

Some interesting websites on the proposals for the urban regeneration of the centre of Bradford
<http://www.bradfordurc.co.uk/default.asp> and a good article from the Guardian on Urban Regeneration in general
<http://society.guardian.co.uk/urbanregeneration/story/0,8150,459287,00.html> (thanks Little Miss)

Houses Around the World <http://www.hgpho.to/wfest/house/house-e.html> - some fascinating photographs here of different houses from around the world – great for comparison work.

Nakheel Developments – Dubai – the two islands in the shape of a palm that can be seen from space – great Google Earth file (thanks to Noel Jenkins for pointing it out) showing this – can be downloaded here <http://bbs.keyhole.com/ubb/download.php?Number=284179> – when you have downloaded the file – right click and extract all – then click on the .kmz file and it will take you straight to Google Earth.

WEATHER

POSTMAN PAT TEACHES DEPRESSIONS

More Genius from Tony Cassidy – a superb little movie summarising depressions – a must try!
<http://www.radicalgeography.co.uk/24.html>

WORLD CUP

MAKING THE MOST OF THE WORLD CUP – from Sunderland Education – some teaching resources relevant to the World Cup – includes powerpoints
<http://www.sunderlandschools.org/international/resources-worldcup.htm>

REVISION IDEAS

Practice Papers – Andrew Field has now released his new version of Practice Papers – which allows students to get a random choice of questions which they can they answer on the screen – they can print their answer and “submit” their answer to get the suggested “model” answer – for more on this see next week’s GeoBytes Updates as I will be adding some to our Year 11 Revision materials on coastal features.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

PODCASTING

A new find this week to support podcasting (and indeed the creation of other resources requiring audio) – Podcast Audio is a website that seeks to provide music by lesser known artists under the Creative Commons Licence – which means that they can be used freely as long as it is for non-commercial use – so for education this is fine. There is a wide variety of music available on here (details of how the artists can be credited are on here) and it is catalogued according to genre. This should be very useful – not only for podcasts, but for moviemaker files, photo stories etc. should also make it possible to share more of these online, without having to worry about copyright issues. <http://podsafeaudio.com/>

USING ICT EFFECTIVELY – TECHNICAL SUPPORT



A New forum from Andrew Field – designed to explore the issues related to the Effective use of ICT in education – includes discussion threads related to the use of ICT in education – as well as more technical threads giving advice on the use of ICT – e.g. flash / creating websites / RSS feeds etc.. – worth bookmarking.

GOOGLE EARTH

Google Earth 101 Course for Educators – American based site – providing information on the basics of using Google Earth as a teaching tool.

<http://www.teachinghacks.com/2006/04/03/google-earth-101-course-for-educators-now-available-2/>

“This introductory course takes educators through the basics of using Google Earth’s Free Version and looks at classroom integration ideas from K-12. There are over 40 minutes of online videos for educators to familiarize themselves with the application, as well as different opportunities for educators to collaborate through topic specific wiki’s, discussions, and potential synchronous chats.”

This Weeks GeoBytes Updates

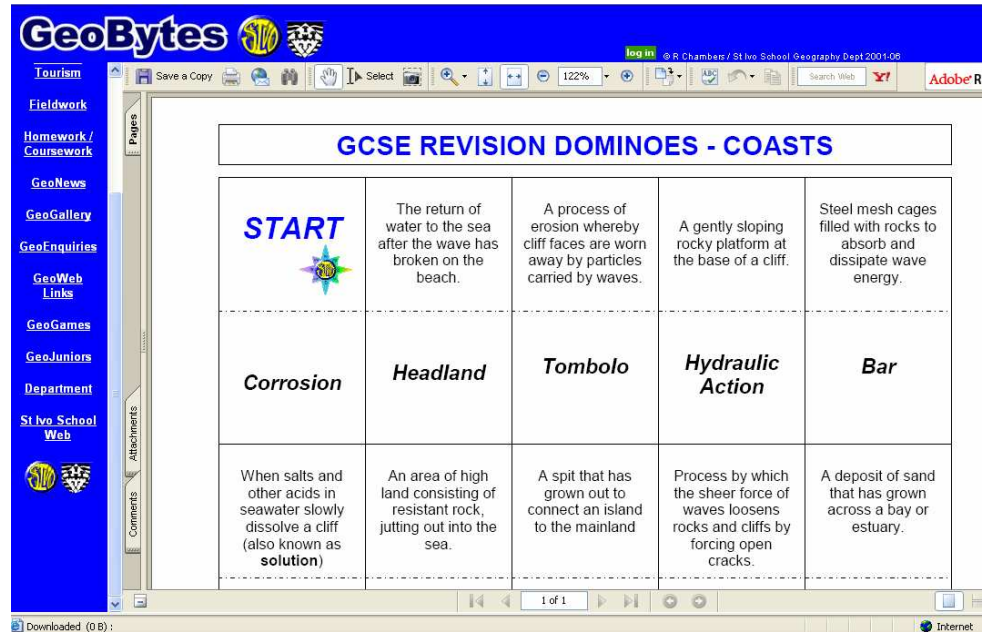
DOMINOES

To complete the GCSE Revision flashcards that I made last week, I have now created a set of Revision Dominoes for use with students – the following topics are available:


- Rivers
- Coasts
- Plate Tectonics
- Population
- Settlement

The files are available on www.geobytes.org.uk – under the Department

section – go to Online Teaching Resources _ SLN shared resources – the files can be downloaded as .pdf files or if you want to make changes to the dominoes or make your own – you can download the .word files. If you create any more for other topics in the spec. do let me know so we can add them to the list.



The screenshot shows a web browser window with the title "GCSE REVISION DOMINOES - COASTS". The browser's address bar shows "http://www.geobytes.org.uk". The page content is a grid of dominoes. The first domino is labeled "START" and features a star icon. The second domino is labeled "Corrosion" and describes the process of salts and acids dissolving a cliff. The third domino is labeled "Headland" and describes a highland area jutting into the sea. The fourth domino is labeled "Tombolo" and describes a spit connecting an island to the mainland. The fifth domino is labeled "Hydraulic Action" and describes the process of waves loosening rocks and cliffs. The sixth domino is labeled "Bar" and describes a deposit of sand across a bay or estuary. The browser's status bar at the bottom shows "Downloaded (0 B)" and "Internet".

GCSE REVISION DOMINOES - COASTS				
START 	The return of water to the sea after the wave has broken on the beach.	A process of erosion whereby cliff faces are worn away by particles carried by waves.	A gently sloping rocky platform at the base of a cliff.	Steel mesh cages filled with rocks to absorb and dissipate wave energy.
Corrosion	Headland	Tombolo	Hydraulic Action	Bar
When salts and other acids in seawater slowly dissolve a cliff (also known as solution)	An area of high land consisting of resistant rock, jutting out into the sea.	A spit that has grown out to connect an island to the mainland	Process by which the shear force of waves loosens rocks and cliffs by forcing open cracks.	A deposit of sand that has grown across a bay or estuary.