



BrightRED  
PUBLISHING

COURSE  
BOOK

Level 3 GEOGRAPHY

BGE LEVEL 3

# GEOGRAPHY

## COURSE BOOK



# INTRODUCING BRIGHTRED BGE GEOGRAPHY

## INTRODUCTION

Welcome to the BrightRed BGE Geography textbook. This book should guide you through all the Outcomes and Benchmarks for Geography for the Scottish Curriculum in a fun-filled, colourful way.

Teachers should never have to worry about covering or assessing Benchmarks ever again, and students should be able to glide effortlessly from Level 3 and progress to some areas of Level 4 while learning about topics that are not only enjoyable, but also should concern all of us about the modern world we live in. The selected topics target learning pathways that build on prior knowledge and help progression into National and Higher Geography. In addition, the activities offered will ensure challenge and rigour for all students, from accessing and understanding key words to evaluating digital data.

Topics covered build on information acquired as students work through the book. Unit 6, 'Mapping Skills', covers the basics to assist any students who may never have experienced working with latitude, longitude or OS grid references, as well as some basic activities included in the BGE Benchmarks.

### Skills for life and work

This has been included to highlight the large variety of skills Geography introduces to us. Students can review these, identify their key strengths and match them to the examples of careers and further study to which each Geographical unit in the book can lead in the Homework Helpers.

### Command words

Three command words are focused on throughout the activities in this book. The understanding and use of these command words should ensure better progress for students into assessment at National 4, 5 and Higher levels.

### Classroom challenges

These are all formulated to cover the BGE Level 3 and some Level 4 Benchmarks and Outcomes. They have been designed to ensure pace, challenge and enjoyment for all abilities.

### Homework Helpers

Activities that are suitable for extending learning beyond the classroom have been highlighted. We also have a wonderful bundle of links to videos and extension work available online at [www.brightredpublishing.co.uk](http://www.brightredpublishing.co.uk)

### Teaching Notes

Printable templates and useful teaching resources have been collated in our Teaching Notes bundle and are available to download for free from the Bright Red website.

UNIT 1: EARTH FORCES

# EARTH FORCES

Having investigated processes which form and shape landscapes. I can explain their impact on selected landscapes in Scotland, Europe and beyond. SOC 3-07a



## Benchmarks

- Identifies the processes which form landscapes across the world.
- Provides a simple explanation of at least three processes involved in the development of any chosen landscape, for example, coasts, volcanic, rivers or glaciated.
- Reviews at least two simple graphical sources to interpret information and form a conclusion, for example, a map and a graph.



## What's coming up?

- What are the zones of the Earth?
- Finding out about the Earth's crust.
- What is Pangea and what are the causes of continental drift?
- What causes plates to move and cause continental drift?
- Getting to know all things volcanic.
- Why do we have earth-shattering earthquakes?
- What causes terrifying tsunamis?

## WHAT ARE THE ZONES OF THE EARTH?

We tend to think of our planet as being a lump of solid rock. However, if we were to take a bite out of the Earth and have a look inside, we would see that it is made up of different parts.

If we were to imagine that we were going on a journey to the centre of the Earth, we would actually pass through four separate zones. The outer zone is the thinnest and is known as the **crust**. It is made of solid material. Below the crust is the thickest zone, known as the **mantle**, which is molten (liquid rock called **magma**). In the centre of the Earth is the **core**, which has two parts. The **outer core** is also believed to be molten, and the **inner core** is thought to be solid and probably made of dense, heavy iron.

### DON'T FORGET



The distance from the surface to the centre of the Earth is 6378 kilometres!

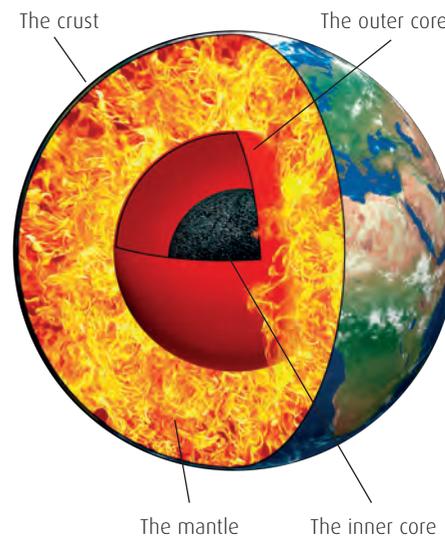
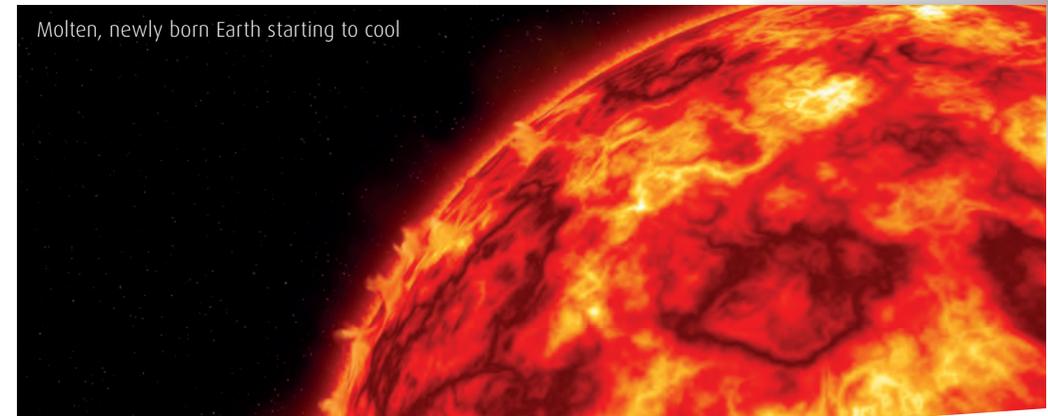


Diagram 1 - The zones of the Earth



Molten, newly born Earth starting to cool

## How the crust formed

The Earth was created under so much heat and pressure that it formed as a molten (liquid) planet. As it orbited (moved in a curved path) around the sun, it gradually began to cool and settle. It was during this time that the outer zone of the Earth – the crust – formed around the planet, rather like skin forming on a bowl of custard or porridge as it starts to cool. Although the crust may feel thick and solid under our feet, when compared to the overall size of the Earth it is as thin as the skin on an apple and as fragile as the shell on an egg.

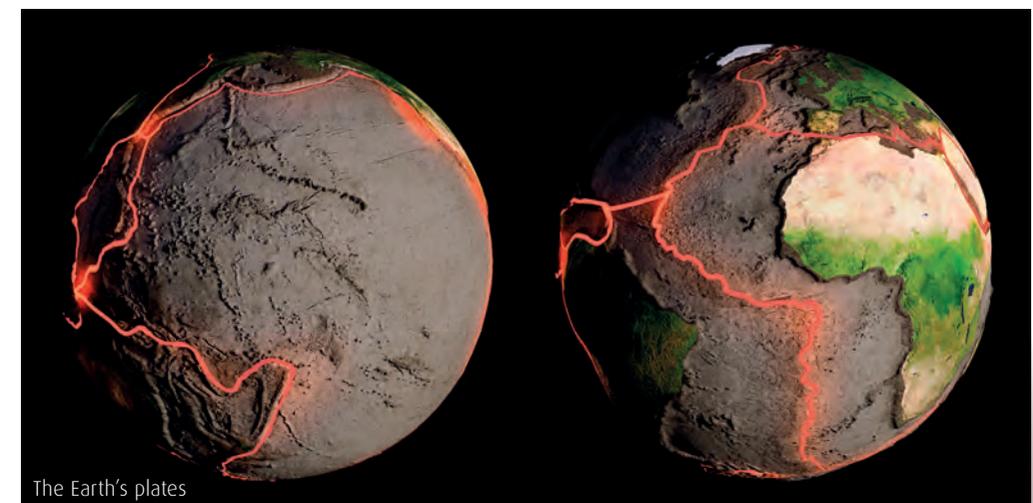


Notice how thin the shell on this egg is!

## The Earth's plates

What makes things difficult for humans is the fact that the crust is also broken up into large pieces known as **plates**. The boundaries of these are the Earth's danger lines where **volcanoes**, **earthquakes** and **tsunamis** regularly occur. In addition, these plates are constantly on the move, jostling and bashing into each other, or ripping apart to open up chasms leading to the mantle below. It is this movement that has ultimately caused great loss of human life on our planet over the centuries.

There are some great film clips on our Homework Helpers to help you imagine what planet Earth was like when it first formed.



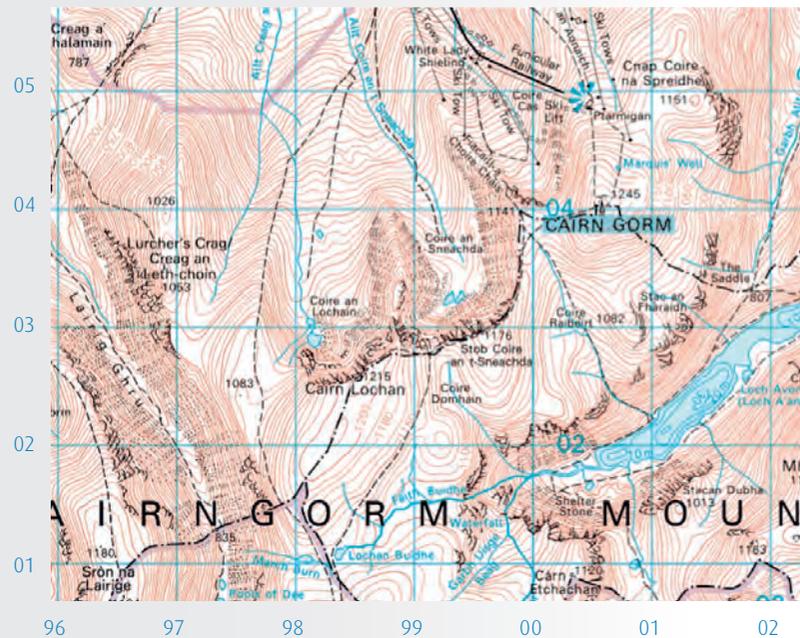
The Earth's plates



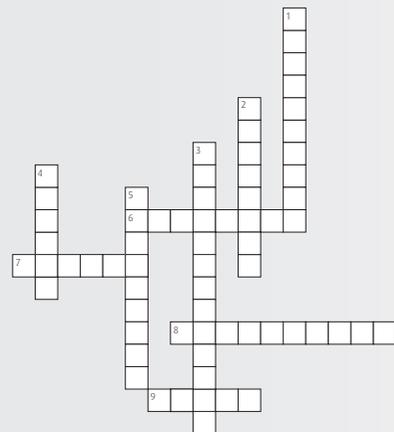
### Classroom challenge

- You should now know how to identify features of glacial erosion on a map. Test this knowledge by trying to identify a CORRIE, ARÊTE, U-SHAPED VALLEY, HANGING VALLEY and RIBBON LAKE from the map below. Copy and complete this table in your workbook.

Feature	Name from map	Four-figure grid reference
Corrie		
Arête		
U-shaped valley		
Hanging valley		
Ribbon lake		



- Read through all the pages on glaciation. Use the clues to complete this crossword.



**Across**

- When rocks in a glacier scrape and scour the land.
- An armchair-shaped feature.
- The name of the world's fastest-moving glacier.
- A knife-edged ridge between two corries.

**Down**

- The name of the ultimate pyramidal peak.
- When ice pulls rocks out of the landscape.
- Used to be V-shaped.
- A type of long, thin lake.
- Comes out of the end of a hanging valley.

Check out the Homework Helpers for more fun-filled glaciation activities.



## HOW CAN HUMANS MAKE USE OF GLACIAL FEATURES?

Like volcanic landscapes, glaciated areas can offer opportunities for humans. In fact, certain glacial features have proven to be extremely useful.

The diagram below shows some of these.

If a corrie faces north, it will be in the shade. Snow lies longer and it will be good for skiing.

The snow, ice and rock cliffs of a corrie attract climbers.

The basin shape of a corrie holds water well. This means it is good for making hydroelectric power, like Cruachan Power Station in Scotland.

The soil tends to be too thin, acidic and rocky for crops, but forestry may be possible on lower slopes.

Fast-flowing rivers are ideal for watersports such as white-water rafting and canoeing.

Ribbon lakes make excellent reservoirs of drinking water for cities. Loch Katrine in Scotland supplies Glasgow's drinking water.

Farmers can keep sheep on the steep slopes.

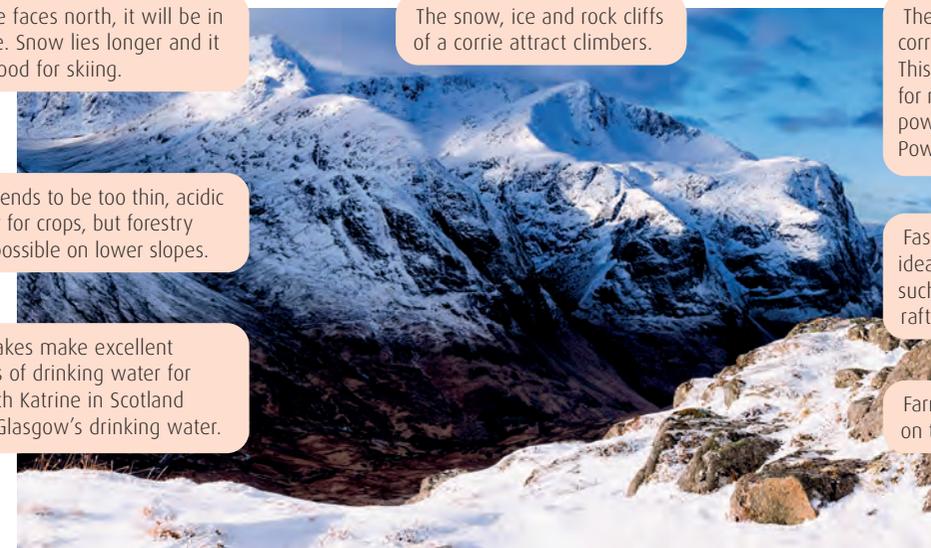


Diagram 10 - Uses of a glacial landscape

All these uses of glaciated landscapes mean that people are able to get jobs there and earn money. This means that people are happy to live and work in these places and not move away to nearby cities. When many people do leave a countryside area, we call it **rural depopulation**.

Follow the links on the Homework Helpers to find out more on how Scotland's glaciated landscapes can be used.



Some uses of glacial landscapes - rafting, hydroelectric power and skiing

# WHAT CONFLICTS ARISE BETWEEN PEOPLE WHO WANT TO USE GLACIAL LANDSCAPES?

People using the countryside should respect the fact that the people living there, the wildlife and the environment all need to be protected. However, so many different people would like to use glaciated landscapes for lots of different activities that it often leads to **conflict**. This means that groups of people start to have serious disagreements with each other about how the landscape should be used. Diagram 11 on page 71 sums up some of the arguments and conflicts that arise because of **tourism** in the Cairngorms National Park near Aviemore, Scotland.



Location of Aviemore



The Cairngorms National Park

Rare and endangered species such as the Scottish wildcat live in the Cairngorms.

## TEACHING NOTES

Making valid conclusions about the impact of human activity on a chosen area is CfE Level 4 work.



Farmers use the land in the Cairngorms.



The beautiful scenery is very fragile and easily damaged.



Too many walkers and climbers on mountains erodes paths.

Ski areas erode the landscape and are visual pollution (look ugly).

Tourists drop litter. Glass bottles can focus the sun's rays and cause fires in forests.

Swimmers may pollute the water supplies in lochs and reservoirs by going to the toilet in them. This could cause outbreaks of disease.

### Tourism conflicts!

Tourists light fires and barbecues in forest areas, causing forest fires.

Tourists let dogs loose in upland areas, which may lead to sheep being attacked and killed.

Speedboats or watersports on lochs cause noise pollution and disturb fishermen.

Tourists walk across farmers' fields, damaging crops, scaring livestock and leaving gates open so animals escape.

Mountain bikers destroy and erode paths by churning them up.

Diagram 11 – Conflict from tourism in the Cairngorms



Many think that skiing destroys the natural environment of Cairn Gorm mountain. What do you think?



Litter left by tourists



Mountain bikes erode the land



Wildfires like this can result from careless use of fires, barbecues and glass bottles



5. Look at Diagram 3 on page 82 and 'My Rainforest Weather Diary'. Copy and complete the paragraph below by selecting the correct words from the word box.

HUMID VAPOUR CONDENSE HEAVY LIGHTNING CONVECTION  
EVAPORATE MONOTONOUS COLDER CUMULONIMBUS

The weather in the tropical rainforest is very \_\_\_\_\_. This is because the hot sun makes moisture e\_\_\_\_\_ from the forest, making the atmosphere very sweaty. This water v\_\_\_\_\_ rises upwards above the trees. As it rises, it gets into \_\_\_\_\_ temperatures, which makes the moisture c\_\_\_\_\_ to form clouds. By afternoon, these clouds have grown into large, tall, \_\_\_\_\_ thunderstorm clouds. There will, therefore, often be h\_\_\_\_\_ rain, thunder and \_\_\_\_\_ before the sun sets in the rainforest. Another name for these thunderstorms is \_\_\_\_\_ rainfall. This happens almost every day, and so we can say that the weather in the rainforest is m\_\_\_\_\_.

6. Make your own labelled diagram in your workbook to show what convection rainfall is.



**TEACHING NOTES**

You could make use of the template from the Teaching Notes for this.



## ADAPTING TO THE RAINFOREST CLIMATE

### How are plants adapted to this climate?

Huge amounts of valuable minerals are found in the rainforest such as gold, bauxite and iron ore.

During the day, trees take in carbon dioxide and give out oxygen. They are sometimes referred to as the 'world's lungs'. In fact, 20% of the world's oxygen comes from the rainforests.

50% of the Earth's plant and animal species are found in the rainforest.

The soils in the rainforest are poor and infertile.

Thick 'jungle vegetation' will only grow on the forest floor where light is able to get through, such as on the banks of a river or in a clearing where a tree has died and collapsed.

Rainforest trees are **deciduous** – this means they lose their leaves.

If the trees are removed, the warm rain washes away the top of the soil, leaving it infertile and useless for growing things. This is called **leaching**.

The forest floor is dark and damp – the leaves and branches of the trees block out the sunlight, so very little will grow here.

Diagram 4 – Important facts about the rainforest



Lack of light on the forest floor means no undergrowth. Thick jungle plants grow where there is light

Despite their poor infertile soils, rainforests are full of the most luxuriant vegetation found on our planet. This leads us to ask: how can this thick vegetation grow? Where are the **nutrients** (food from the soil for plants) coming from? The answer is that they are feeding on their own dead leaves, which are rotting on the forest floor!

The forest itself is made up of distinct layers.

# BrightRED Course Books

BGE LEVEL 3

# GEOGRAPHY

Rhona Maclean

This BrightRED Course Book for Broad General Education is the perfect resource for students in **S1, S2 and S3**. It covers the **Level 3 experiences and outcomes** and has been written to meet the **Curriculum for Excellence benchmarks**.

Whether you are looking for support in the classroom or help at home, this BGE Course Book is the one for you! The core content is supported with many great teaching and learning features:

- ▶ **What's coming up?** spells out the ground you are set to cover.
- ▶ **Classroom challenge questions and tasks** test your knowledge and keep you on track.
- ▶ **Homework helpers** offer you extra support to try yourself at home.
- ▶ **Don't forget pointers** remind you of the most important bits just in case!
- ▶ **Teaching Notes** provide supporting content every step of the way.
- ▶ **A full glossary** lists key terms and concepts for handy reference.

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