

Our Diverse Planet

Vocabulary	Definition
climate	The general pattern of the weather in a particular location over a period of time.
delta	An area formed from the material carried in a river when the river slows down as it reaches the sea.
export	When something is sent out of the country that it has been made or found in.
import	When something is brought into the country from another country.
resource	A material that is useful for something.
settlement	An area where humans have made shelter to live - their home.
transportation	The movement of manufactured goods and resources from their sites of production to the places that they are used or sold.
urban	built-up areas such as towns and cities which are more densely populated.

Physical Processes

Different physical processes change landscapes so that they look a certain way. The physical processes act at a location over time to create different landscapes:



volcanic



glacial



delta

How does climate affect people's lives?

People have to adapt to the climate they live in. This means that people living in different climates have different lifestyles. Climate change is causing extreme weather events, including severe storms, cyclones, floods, sandstorms, heatwaves and droughts. The Global Climate Risk Index ranks the countries that are most affected by the effects of extreme weather related to climate change.

How does industry affect an area?

Industry can have a damaging effect on the environment where it is taking place, and also further away. For example:

- tourism leads to loss of habitat and congestion
- factories produce toxic waste chemicals that pollute the environment.

Where do we get our resources from?

Countries worldwide export and import fossil fuels, metal ores, food and manufactured products. The availability of natural resources, the climate and the type of soil in different countries influence what they export. Resources move across the globe by rail, road, sea and air transport.