

Vocabulary	Meaning
adaptation	the process by which an organism becomes better suited to its environment
dormancy	a deep sleep
hibernation	the period of an animal or plant spending the winter in a dormant state
migration	movement of animals from one area to another
Greenhouse Effect	a process that occurs when gases in the Earth's atmosphere are trapped in the Sun's heat
Carbon Dioxide	a colourless and odourless gas present in the air
Meteorologist	someone who studies the weather of an area
natural disaster	a natural event that causes damage or loss of life
Avalanche	a mass of snow/ice/rocks falling rapidly down a mountain
Hurricane	a storm with a violent wind
catastrophic	causing great/sudden damage or suffering
Volcano	a mountain or hill, having a crater through which lava, rocks fragments or vapour erupt from the Earth's crust
Global Warming	a gradual increase in the Earth's temperature
Ecosystem	a biological community of organisms
pollution	introduction of something to the environment which has a harmful or poisonous effect
sewage	waste water transported in sewers

Ecosystems	Pollution	Erosion	Deforestation
			

Key knowledge – What is a habitat?



Why is it important that living things adapt to suit their environments?.

A habitat is the natural home or environment of an animal, plant, or other organism. Animals and plants are adapted to suit the environments in which they live and some adapt further depending on the season. For example, the snowshoe hare would not survive in its Arctic habitat if it was the colour of the European brown hare all year round, but it also would not survive if it was white during the summer months.





Key knowledge – What impact do natural disasters have on the environment?



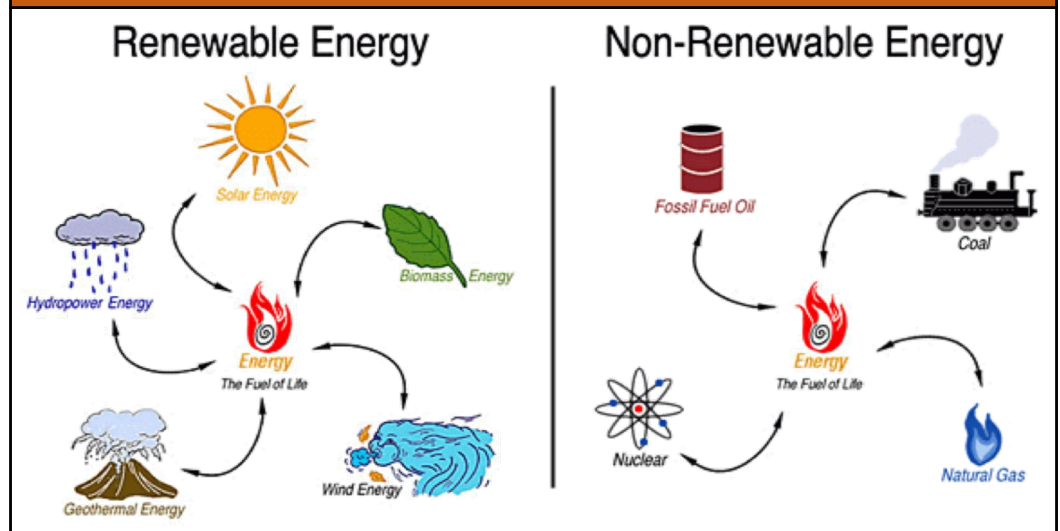
Natural disasters are naturally occurring events which can cause massive change to our environment. Key questions we will explore:

- What happens when there is a drought?
- Why is flooding so dangerous?
- How do natural disasters have a positive effect on ecosystems?

Vocabulary	Meaning
drought	a long period of time without water
agriculture	the science or practice of farming
erosion	the process of being eroded by wind or water
deforestation	forests being cut down and destroyed
Global	relating to the whole world
Local	relating to a particular area
renewable	something that can be used again
pollutant	a substance that can have a harmful/negative effect
contaminate	make something impure by exposure or the addition of a poisonous or pollutant substance
detergent	makes oils break into smaller particles by making it soluble

Natural Gas	Fossil Fuel Oil	Solar Energy	Wind Energy
			

Key knowledge – Which of these energy sources should we use and why?



Renewable Energy	Non-Renewable Energy
Air and water are renewable resources, meaning that they recycle themselves so that they are never used up.	Many natural resources are non-renewable; they will not last forever. For example, fossil fuels, like coal, oil, and gas. They take 50+ millions of years to form!