

Year 6 Geography Knowledge Organiser - Oceans

The World Ocean

1. The World Ocean is the name geographers give to the 5 main oceans as they are all connected.
2. The Pacific Ocean is the largest and lies to the west of North and South America and to the east of Asia and Australasia.
3. The Atlantic Ocean is the ocean to the east of North and South America and to the west of Europe and Africa.
4. The Indian Ocean lies south of India.
5. The Southern Ocean is north of Antarctica.
6. The Arctic Ocean is south of the Arctic.

Maritime Shipping Routes

1. Ships carrying freight follow maritime shipping routes.
2. Ships try to take the quickest and safest route.



The Wind Stream

1. The Sahara desert (in Africa) produces very dry, hot air.
2. This dry hot air is sometimes picked up by strong winds called a wind stream.
3. This wind stream can pick up ocean water and thunderstorms as well.
4. It can produce hurricanes on the American side of the Atlantic Ocean.

Did you know...

that over 70% of the Earth is water and that oceans hold 97% of the water on the planet?

Vocabulary

1. North pole	The most northerly point on Earth.
2. South pole	The most southerly point on Earth.
3. Enclosed	Surrounded or closed off on all sides.
4. Salinity	The saltiness of ocean and sea water is described as salinity.
5. Transported	To take or carry goods from one place to another by vehicle (ship, train, truck or aeroplane).
6. Trade	The activity of buying or selling goods or services between countries.
7. Maritime trade	Trade by ship.
8. Manufactured goods	Things that have been made by people.
9. Quantities	A specific number or amount of something.
10. Freight	Goods or cargo carried by ship, train, truck or aeroplane.
11. Ocean currents	The patterns that the ocean flows in.
12. Gyres	Where ocean currents meet and move in large circular loops.
13. Phytoplankton	Tiny plants in oceans and seas that take in carbon dioxide and produce oxygen.
14. Atlantic coast	Where land meets the Atlantic ocean. many people live along the Atlantic coast.
15. Oceanic coast	Where land meets an ocean.
16. Regulates	To control something that changes.
17. Fossil fuels	Are formed from the decomposition (breaking down) of plants and animals that died millions of years ago. This matter is then burnt for energy. It is non-renewable and forms 80% of the world's energy.

Oceans and Climate

The ocean does all sorts of things to make the land around the Earth feel warmer or colder.

1. The water in the oceans flows in patterns called ocean currents.
2. Some move quickly, some slowly.
3. Currents move warm water and cold water from one area to another.
4. Currents flowing away from the Equator are warm currents.
5. Currents flowing towards the Equator are cold currents.
6. Without ocean currents there would be some very extreme weather on the Earth.
7. Some ocean currents meet and run in giant circular loops called gyres.
8. Phytoplankton in the seas and oceans produce most of the oxygen that we breathe.

Oceans and Climate Change

1. Oceans and seas regulate our climate.
2. Oceans and seas move warm water from the Equator to the poles.
3. Oceans and seas move cold water from the poles to the tropics.
4. The world's oceans regulate the amount of rain that falls.
5. The oceans absorb carbon dioxide. This helps to keep a balance between temperatures on Earth.
6. Sea levels are rising that will threaten some islands and livelihoods around the world.
7. One reason for rising sea levels is humans' use of fossil fuels. Burning these fuels to produce energy is causing the ice to melt at the north and south poles.

Human Impact

1. Drift-net fishing catches fish (the aim) but also catches other sea-life like sharks, dolphin and turtles.
2. Sometimes drift-nets break apart into the sea. These nets do not breakdown very easily and sea-life often gets tangled within them.
3. Some ships spill oil. Oil sticks to fur and feathers of marine animals. It can kill them.
4. Rubbish that humans produce can get into the oceans. It can end up in gyres and travel round and round polluting the oceans and killing marine life.
5. Water extracted from large water sources (such as the Aral Sea) depletes the sea and increases the salinity of the area. This caused fish and birds to die.