



Moving stories

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3 Living Geography

Geography in schools, colleges and other educational settings is concerned with perceptive and deep description of the real world. It seeks explanations about how the world works and helps us think about alternative futures; it is 'Living Geography'.

Whether it is organised by subject, themes or topics, Living Geography brings contemporary context and real world enquiry to the curriculum. Thus Living Geography is a strong 'brand' for school geography as a twenty-first century subject.

Living Geography:

- is directly relevant to people's lives and the world of work
- is about change – recognises that the past helps explain the present, but is current and futures oriented
- has a scale 'zoom lens', so that the local is always set in a global context
- is 'deeply observant' – it looks beneath the surface to identify the mechanisms that change environments and societies
- encourages a critical understanding of big ideas like 'sustainable development', 'interdependence' and 'globalisation'.

viewpoints

'Geography prepares young people with the knowledge, skills and understanding to make sense of their world and to face the challenges that will shape our societies and



environments at the local, national and global scales.'

Dr Rita Gardner,
Director, RGS-IBG

'What is exciting about geography today is that it is the first curriculum subject in the UK to take seriously the need for critical and creative thinking about the future.'



David Hicks,
Professor of Education

Living Geography sounds ambitious. It is ambitious, and worth striving for.

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