What are we learning about?

In this topic we are going to look at ecosystems, how to describe them, measure them and understand how human benefit from them . We will also learn about how human are impacting ecosystems and changing the planet



Why are we learning about it?

To understand how humans and other species have adapted to live in their ecosystems. As well as knowing how the nutrients and elements needed for life, like water, are cycled though an ecosystem so they never run out.



What new KNOWLEDGE will I gain?

The different ways to describe and measure ecosystems as well as an understanding of competition within and between species. You will learn about the water and carbon cycles which are essential for all life. You will also be introduced to extremophiles, organisms that live in the most uninhabitable regions of the earth





How does this build on the **SKILLS** I already have?

You will build on your practical planning skills, data interpretation and graphing skills in this topic when planning practicals and examining data on plant, animal and human populations. The topic will also work on your exam related skills



What new **SKILLS** will I develop?

You will gain new practical skills when measuring populations within ecosystems. The topic will encourage the use and development of critical thinking and loss gain analysis skills when learning about the ways that humans use land/ecosystems and impacts that has on the planet. Triple science students will also be confronted with how their food is produced and will be required to employ skills in ethics and morality.



How does this build on the KNOWLEDGE I already have?

In KS3 you learnt the basics of ecosystems, food chains and adaptations. We will be building on that knowledge to understand how energy is lost in food chains and the three different types of adaptations.

This topic will also add to your knowledge of climate change and will improve your understanding of how humans use land/ecosystems and impacts that has on the planet.