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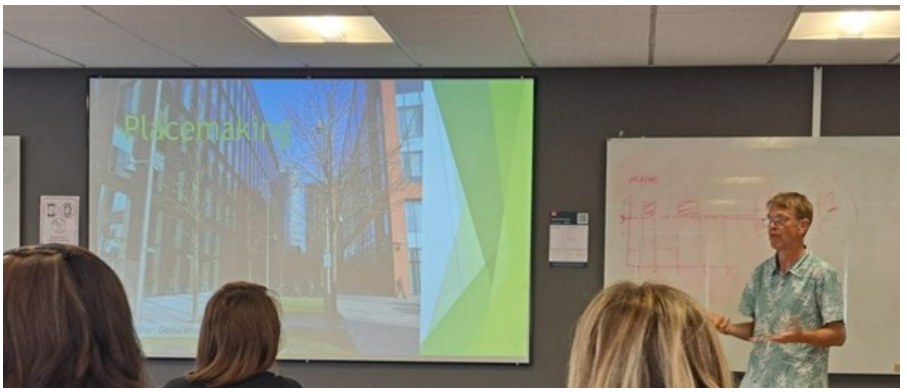
Geography Southwest Newsbites April 2026



Welcome to the April 2026 Newsbites. The free **2026 Geography Southwest Conference** on **Monday 22 June** at the University of West of England (UWE), Bristol, is now open for booking**.** The programme is **here.**

Do interest your students in entering the **RGS Young Geographer of the Year Competition**. This year's theme is *From Source to Sea*, focussing on rivers, and the deadline is October 2 2026. The RGS are also running their prestigious **A level essay competition** with the Financial Times. The title is *What factors drive migration, how are patterns shifting and*

what are the consequences? and there is a useful collection of resources available. The deadline is Monday 9 November.



New geography resources

James Ketchell is aiming to become the first person to circumnavigate the globe by air, land and sea!
National Oceanography Centre Ambassador James Ketchell is aiming to become the first person to circumnavigate the globe by air, land and sea! **Students can follow his progress** using interactive maps and videos. **Educational resources** about oceans, wildlife and exploration which are suitable for Key Stage 3 are available.

Survey of Young People aged 14-19 in the UK

The Centre for Climate Change and Sustainabilty Education(CCCSE) is following up its survey of 11-14 years with a new survey to gather an understanding of young people's perspectives and feelings about climate change and sustainability, including the education they receive in schools and colleges. Do encourage your students to take part as the results will help inform future educational materials.

Celebrating David Attenborough

The Royal Meteorological Society's Metlink has a celebration of David Attenborough with curriculum-linked weather and climate extracts from some of his many documentaries. These clips cover topics from heat Islands and ecosystems, to climate change and our oceans, and some include educational resources. This is a very useful compilations of clips which will

save teachers considerable time in locating valuable video images.

Talks and resources on El Nino Southern Oscillation
The MetSoc has a video presentation with accompanying resources of Sylvia Knight, Head of Education at the RMetS, delivering a talk outlining the causes and impacts of ENSO to A level geographers.

Topical new resource on coastal erosion and management at Slapton, Devon. This new storymap from the RGS includes videos, maps, images and up to date information about the storm damage in early 2026 and the management options. Its aimed at GCSE and is also useful for students studying coasts at A level. There is a clear explanation of current processes and barrier beaches the links to historic sea level changes.

Teaching about coastal erosion and the results of the 2026 Winter Storms?
Dorset Coast Forum have a detailed summary of **storm damage to the Dorset coast** during the winter of 2025/6 including images and videos. It features West Bay, Weymouth, Charmouth, Studland and Swanage and is a good introduction on the many effects of storms on the coast. The image below shows storm damage at Durdle Door beach. The lower section of the steps down have been eroded and the footpath is closed. The softer clays are dangerous to walk on and suffering from slope movements.



Forthcoming events for geography teachers

National Oceanography Centre Southampton Open Day: The next National Oceanography Centre Open Day at the NOC, European Way, Southampton SO14 3ZH is on Sunday 14 June, with morning and afternoon sessions, celebrating 30 years of its work. The education and fun activities for all the family will include interactive exhibits and engaging presentations, plus a chance to meet inspirational marine scientists and engineers. Advance bookings can be made online.

Centre for Climate Change and Sustainability Education Schools Conference, Friday 19 June 2026.
CCCSE conference for primary and secondary schools is at London UCL's campus on Friday 19 June 2026. It will focus on issues relating to climate change, nature and sustainability across the curriculum.
in manageable and inspiring ways. For more detals and to reserve a place, email **climateeducation@ucl.ac.uk.**

RGS Fieldwork skills for GCSE and A level physical geography.

This 90 minute webinar on Wednesday 24 June, 1700, online run jointly with the FSC will showcase best practice for high quality physical geography fieldwork.
and provide ideas to try. A follow up webinar on Monday 6 July, 1700, online will focus on **fieldwork skills and opportunities in the local area** for GCSE and A level enquiries.

Starting teaching with fieldwork confidence. These GA courses from the GA and Field Studies Council aimed at teachers who have recently joined the profession will take place at various locations in 2026. The next is in Greenwich Park on Wednesday 20 May.

Discover the World Education Italy school trips
Discover the World has updated its Italian school trips which are linked to the geography curriculum. They also have useful supporting videos, including
Classroom Resource: Living in the shadow of Italy's volcanoes | Discover the World Education



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