

Action Plan for Geography KS3 CPD Tutorial – Mapping Festivals – PPT Script

Slide 1: Introduction. Welcome to the Action Plan for Geography KS3 tutorial on Mapping Festivals. The aim of this tutorial is to provide guidance for teachers using the Mapping Festivals KS3 resources from the Geography Teaching Today website, including a range of teaching ideas, information and resources that can support planning for and teaching of this topic in a KS3 context. There is an emphasis on making learning enjoyable as well as linking with the geography programme of study and promoting progression throughout the Key Stage. It is hoped that as students work through this module, they will learn and develop their map skills, and become more confident in using a variety of map resources in geography.

Slide 2: Overview. Maps are two dimensional representations of three dimensional features. Certain map skills are required to interpret this 2-D information, in order to visualize a landscape and be able to develop a geographical imagination of that place. Teaching map skills can be a daunting prospect because it is often considered to be a rather dry topic, often falling back on the use of textbook diagrams and practice questions. It can be very difficult for students to grasp the concepts in this way. Learning to use maps may be better taught by presenting students with a real situation which they can identify with and be inspired by, and in which you might need to use a map. This module, for example, approaches map skills through the topic of festivals.

Slide 3: Teaching map-work through festivals. Music festivals are increasingly popular, contemporary events. They therefore form an interesting and engaging angle from which to tackle map work. It may be possible for the module to be taught around the time of the annual Glastonbury Festival – one of the unit's main case studies – increasing the topicality still further.

Slide 4: Map skills coverage. The basic map skills covered within the unit include:

- Giving and understanding grid references
- Understanding symbols and using the key
- Giving and following compass directions
- Measuring distances
- Giving a route description for a journey
- Understanding how height and relief are shown on a map

Your students may be familiar with some of these techniques, or this might be the first time they have encountered them. Either way, a good place to start is the interactive map skills activities included in the module, which can be completed as a class on your Interactive White Board, or individually on student PCs.

Slide 5: An enquiry-based approach. In the Mapping Festivals module, lessons are tackled using an enquiry-based route to learning. Students are presented with scenarios which require them to find out information in order to solve a problem or task. Tasks are presented as situations that students might encounter if planning a visit to a music festival. They are thus engaging and relevant, while at the same time covering the key map skills that the students need to learn and practice.

Slide 6: Case studies. The Glastonbury Festival takes place annually at the end of June at Worthy Farm in the village of Pilton in Somerset. It is the world's biggest open air arts and music festival – in 2009, around 190,000 people attended. This makes it an obvious choice as the main case study for the module. Ordnance Survey maps are used to investigate the site and situation of the festival, and to research attractions and transport links in the wider area.

As well as the Glastonbury Festival, other music festivals in UK and internationally are investigated throughout the module. These include V Festival in Chelmsford, Latitude in Suffolk, Rhythm and Vines in New Zealand and Benicassim in Spain.

Slide 7: OS maps. The Ordnance Survey is the UK's national mapping agency, providing the most up-to-date and accurate geographical maps of the country. The online 'Get-a-map' service allows individuals to search for and download maps for particular places, postcodes or grid references. Maps obtained through the service cover relatively small areas, but it is possible to zoom in or out to obtain different scales. Ordnance Survey maps are used throughout this module at a range of scales, enabling students to practise using grid references, scale, distance, symbols and contours.

Slide 8: Google Earth. As well as Ordnance Survey maps, students use Google Earth within the module to investigate places at different scales. Google Earth is a highly useful but simple GIS tool which can be used to locate, explore and interpret different parts of the globe. Typing any place name into the 'fly to' search box will take you to that location within the program. Once there, you can drag the map, zoom in and out and explore the different data layers. A place-mark can be also attached to the map, allowing the user to highlight and name certain locations, and add text, photos, video clips and weblinks. In this way, students can use Google Earth to find and explore the site and situation of different global festival case studies, building on the skills learnt in the initial lessons of the unit.

Slide 9: Environment Agency flood maps. The Environment Agency is the leading public body for the environmental protection of air, water and land in England and Wales. One of their main roles is flood warning, protection and management. The Environment Agency website provides information on how to assess flood risk, and gives guidance on steps to take in the event - and aftermath - of a flood. In addition, the online flood map tool allows individuals to enter their postcode and to obtain a flood risk map for that area. Flood risk maps are used within the module to obtain data for different UK festival sites. Students can use this information to write flood risk reports for each of the sites.

Slide 10: Environmental interaction and sustainable development. When large numbers of people congregate for any event, especially in rural locations and in high concentrations, their activities will have an environmental impact. Environmental awareness, however, means that increasingly such events are looking to improve their sustainability. In this module, the efforts being made by organisers of the Glastonbury Festival to address issues of waste, water, sewage, noise and crime are investigated through independent research, using the festival website. This adds another geographical dimension to the module, while still maintaining the map-skills focus through a map-interpretation exercise.

Slide 11: Pulling the threads together. Having been taught a range of map skills using a variety of resources, students should now be able to draw together their experiences in order to become more adept and confident in applying the skills they've learnt. In the final lesson of the module, students design their own festival. As independent learners, they use map information to choose a suitable location for their festival, examining site and situation factors as well as flood risk. They then consider the surrounding area and provide information on travel and local attractions. Finally, they are encouraged to make decisions about how to make their festival sustainable, based on what they have learnt about the environmental impact of music festivals.