

# Project glossary

## Geography vocabulary

### **agriculture**

The practice of farming, including growing crops and rearing animals.

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### **allotment**

A small piece of land that individuals can rent to grow fruit, vegetables and flowers.

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### **arable farming**

Growing crops, such as cereals and vegetables.

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### **biome**

A large ecosystem that has characteristic features, such as the climate and landscape. Example biomes include desert, grassland, forest, tundra and aquatic.

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### **carbon footprint**

The amount of carbon dioxide released into the atmosphere by one individual, one process or one company.

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### **climate**

The usual weather conditions that occur in a place over a long period.

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### **climate change**

The long-term change in expected weather patterns that contributes to the melting of polar ice caps, rising sea levels and extreme weather.

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### **climate zone**

An area with a distinct climate.

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### **contour line**

A line on a map joining points of equal height above sea level.

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### **cultivate**

To prepare and use land for crops or gardening.

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### **desert zone**

An area with very little rainfall and large temperature differences between night and day, and summer and winter.



**fertiliser**

A natural or chemical substance that is spread on the land or given to plants to make them grow successfully.

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**food miles**

The distance food travels between where it is produced and where it is consumed.

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**greenhouse gas**

A gas, such as carbon dioxide, that traps heat in the Earth’s atmosphere contributing to global warming.

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**irrigation**

The supply of water through channels to land or crops to help growth.

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**Mediterranean zone**

An area with mild, wet winters and hot, dry summers.

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**mixed farming**

Growing crops and rearing animals.

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**monoculture**

The growing of a single crop in a given area.

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**mountain zone**

An area with a changeable climate that becomes colder and wetter as the elevation increases.

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**pastoral farming**

Rearing animals, such as cows and sheep.

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**pesticide**

A chemical substance used to kill animals and plants that are harmful to crops.

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**polar zone**

A cold, dry area with long, dark winters.

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**seasonality**

The time of year when the harvest or flavour of a type of food is at its best.

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**temperate zone**

An area with warm summers, cool winters and year-round precipitation.



**topography**

The physical appearance of the natural features of an area of land, especially the shape of its surface.

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**tropical zone**

An area that is hot and wet with a constant temperature, and a wet season and dry season.

**Science vocabulary**

**adolescent**

A stage in the life cycle of a mammal, bird or amphibian.

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**adult**

A stage in the life cycle of all vertebrates.

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**amphibian**

A cold-blooded vertebrate that lives on land and in water.

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**anther**

The male part of a flower where pollen grains are made.

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**apex predator**

An animal at the end of a food chain that is not eaten by any other animal.

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**asexual reproduction**

A reproduction process that involves only one parent plant and produces identical versions of themselves.

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**bird**

A warm-blooded vertebrate with feathers, wings and a beak.

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**bulb**

A plant asexual reproductive structure like a swollen stem that contains a tiny plant and a store of food, such as a tulip bulb.

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**carpel**

A flower’s female reproductive organ.

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**corm**

A plant asexual reproductive structure like a short, upright underground stem that stores food, such as a crocus corm.



**egg**

An oval or round object laid by a female bird, reptile, amphibian, fish or invertebrate, usually containing a developing embryo.

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**embryo**

An animal that is developing inside its mother or in an egg; or a plant that is developing in a seed.

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**filament**

A male part of a flower that supports an anther.

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**food chain**

A diagram that shows how food energy is transferred from one living thing to another.

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**food web**

A diagram that shows how food chains in an ecosystem link together.

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**insect**

An invertebrate with six legs and a body divided into three parts: a head, thorax and abdomen.

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**juvenile**

A stage in the mammalian life cycle between embryo and adolescent.

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**larva**

A stage in an insect and amphibian’s life cycle where the young has left its egg but has not yet developed into a pupa or adult insect or animal.

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**life cycle**

A series of changes that happen during the life of a living thing.

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**mammal**

A vertebrate animal that is warm blooded, gives birth to live young, has fur or hair and breathes air with lungs. Females produce milk to feed their offspring.

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**metamorphosis**

The process of an insect or amphibian changing from its larval form to its adult form.

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**ovary**

A female part of a plant that contains ovules.

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**ovule**

A female structure in a plant ovary that develops into a seed when fertilised.



**petal**

A part of a flower that is brightly coloured and scented to attract insects.

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**primary consumer**

An animal that eats a producer.

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**producer**

A living thing that makes its own food for energy, such as a plant.

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**pupa**

A stage in an insect’s life cycle between larva and adult when the larva is contained in a hard protective covering. The insect transforms to its adult form during this stage.

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**rhizome**

A plant asexual reproductive structure like a stem that grows horizontally underground, such as in a ginger plant.

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**runner**

A plant asexual reproductive structure that runs along the ground, such as in a strawberry plant.

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**secondary consumer**

An animal that eats a primary consumer.

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**seed**

A plant reproductive structure that is like a small, hard grain from which a new plant will grow if the conditions are right for germination, such as a bean seed.

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**sepal**

A green, leaf-shaped part of a plant that protects a developing flower.

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**sexual reproduction**

In plants, the process where pollen is transferred from one parent plant to another to create seeds that grow into a new plant that is different from the parent plants.

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**stigma**

A part of the female carpel structure in a plant where pollen is received.

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**style**

A part of the female carpel structure in a plant that connects the ovary to the stigma.



**tertiary consumer**

An animal that eats a secondary consumer.

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**tuber**

A plant asexual reproductive structure that is like a swollen underground root, such as a seed potato.

