## Year 4 Deserts Medium Term Plan

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National Curriculum	Knowledge
Children should be taught to	Deserts
describe and understand key aspects of:	Distribution and climate of deserts
physical geography, including: climate zones,	Depth focus: The Sahara Desert
biomes and vegetation belts, rivers, mountains, volcanoes and earthquakes, and the water cycle	How deserts are formed, variety of landscapes. Plants and animals in deserts How humans live and adapt in deserts
	Depth focus: The Patagonian Desert
	Geographical skills: Interpreting thematic maps and satellite photographs
	Disciplinary focus: diversity
	Why are deserts located where they are?
Lesson Focus	Vocabulary
1 Are deserts always hot?	hydrated, dehydrated, desert, vegetation, arid, Sahara Desert, plummet
2 The Sahara Desert	lush, sand dunes, oasis, oases, store, camels, Sahel, semi-arid, drought
3 How are deserts formed?	productive, non-productive, desertification, physical, nutrients, overgrazing, herd, overfarming
4 What plants and animals live in a desert?	variety, flora, fauna, obtain, desolate, succulents, cactus, cacti, spines, prevent, meerkat, nocturnal, chameleon, Antarctica, penguins, polar bears, blubber, lichen
5 How have humans used deserts?	modern, traditional, tents, divert, steppe, Great Steppe, Silk Road, yurts, portable
6 The Patagonian Desert	Patagonia, rain shadow, hostile, exceeds, feature, exposes, extinct
Synoptic task In what ways are deserts around the world similar and different?	
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