Year 5	Why is California so thirsty? Medium Term Plan

National Curriculum	Knowledge
Children should be taught to	Why is California so thirsty?
describe and understand key aspects of:	Water as a resource
physical geography, including: climate zones, biomes and vegetation belts, rivers, mountains, volcanoes and	Depth focus on California (region in North America), continuing natural resources theme (revisit water cycle from Year 3)
earthquakes, and the water cycle	Water resources in California Farming - intensive farming, growing almonds– providing water.
locate the world's countries, using maps to focus on	The future of water supply in California.
Europe (including the location of Russia) and North	Geographical skills: Interpreting a range of thematic maps
and South America, concentrating on their	Disciplinary focus: change
environmental regions, key physical and human characteristics, countries, and major cities	How have the actions of people affected the drought in California?
Lesson Focus	Vocabulary
1.Water	precipitation, water cycle, treated, California
2. Farming	reservoir, irrigation
3. Why is California running out of water?	drought, groundwater
4. Growing almonds	almonds, factors, rainfall, water supply
5. Aqueduct	aqueduct, California aqueduct
6. What next?	revisit above vocabulary
Synoptic task Why is California so thirsty?	