

Week 1 : Location of Russia	Week 2 Climates of Russia	Week 3: Ecosystems of Russia
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Russia is in the Northern Hemisphere • Russia is a country that stretches over a vast expanse of Eastern Europe and Northern Asia • .Major landforms include the Caucasus Mountains, Urals Siberian Plain and Siberian Plateau • Russia borders a large number of countries: Norway, Finland, Estonia, Latvia, Belarus, Ukraine, Georgia, Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, China, Mongolia, North Korea, Lithuania and Poland • Russia has coasts on a number of seas and oceans including the Artic and Pacific Oceans 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Many parts of Russia are located far away from the sea and have a continental climate. • The climate is characterized by long, humid cold winters and short summers • The summer seasons are warm and shorter within the Arctic • Siberia specifically known for its long, harsh winters • In the south and central regions it is hotter ,which makes these parts ideal for agricultural production • During the winter season, temperatures in Russia are very cold falling to -30°C and lower • The winter season in Russia is significantly influenced by strong easterly winds called Buran 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Russia is divided into several biomes forming different ecological regions • The Russian landscape varies from sandy and frozen deserts to tall mountains and giant marshes. • Much of Russia is made up of rolling, treeless plains called “steppes”. • It’s forests, steppes and tundras provide habitat for many rare animals, including Asiatic black bears, snow leopards and polar bears • The region of Siberia, which occupies three-quarters of Russia, is dominated by sprawling pine forests called “taigas”. • Taigas is a sometimes swampy coniferous forest
Week 4 Resources in Russia	Week 5 Human adaptations to the Taiga	Week 6: Environmental Challenges of life in Siberian Russia
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Russia is probably richer in natural resources than any other country in the world. • It has abundant supplies of oil, natural gas, timber • It also has valuable minerals, such as copper, diamonds, lead, zinc, bauxite, nickel, tin, mercury, gold and silver • Most of these minerals are located in Siberia and the Far East. • The value of Russia's resources is huge. • Oil and natural gas has made Russia virtually self-sufficient in energy • The forests of Siberia contain an estimated one-fifth of the world's timber, mainly conifers. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There are a number of challenges living in the Taiga • The soil beneath the Taiga often contains permafrost—a layer of permanently frozen soil • In other areas, a layer of bedrock lies just beneath the soil • Water can not drain through the permafrost or bedrock which makes the top soil swampy. • For may years small groups of people lived in the Taiga in Siberia • The people hunted and trapped animals to survive • In recent times more human activity is taking place • Extensive logging is now taking place 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deforestation - Current extensive logging in the forests may soon cause their disappearance. • Acid rain is also causing significant problems for the Taiga forests • Acid rain does not usually kill trees directly. Instead, it is more likely to weaken the trees by damaging their leaves and limits the nutrients available to the trees. • The tress are more easily damaged by the cold • Increased temperatures due to climate change are leading to the permafrost melting • This releases CO2 into the atmosphere