Africa – a continent of contrasts

Lesson 3: Conflict in Sudan

Key Questions:
   a) What is Sudan’s climate and environment like?
   b) What has been happening to cause conflict in Sudan?
   c) Why has the conflict lasted so long?
   d) What are the impacts of civil war on the people of Sudan?

Starter activity:

Suggestion 1 – ‘What country am I?’ quiz
This activity should be carried out before the students are made aware of which country they will be studying during the course of the next two lessons. The PowerPoint presentation reveals five clues to the country. Students can put up their hands when they think they know the answer, or they can write their answers down and share them after the five clues are given.

Suggestion 2 - KWL grid
In a KWL activity, students complete a grid in which they write down what they already know about a topic, what they would like to know about a topic, and then at the end of the lesson, what they have learnt about the topic. This KWL grid for the topic of Sudan is available as a PowerPoint slide. As a starter activity, students complete the first two columns of the grid. They can complete the final column (what they have learnt) during the lesson plenary.

MAIN ACTIVITY:
1. Quick mapping activity.
This activity encourages students to consider the geographical location and physical features of Sudan. Provide students with the downloadable map hand out, which includes maps of Sudan on two different scales. Ask the students to describe the location of Sudan using geographical vocabulary such as equator, borders, north, Red Sea etc. They can then comment on physical features such as rivers and the location of key settlements. This exercise can be followed up with a discussion about the physical environment of Sudan. Students can draw on their prior learning about the continent of Africa to suggest what different environments, climates and ecosystems might exist in the country, given its location.

2. Sudan mystery: Why does Betty speak a different language to her parents?
This activity enables students to gain information on the civil war in Sudan and to consider its impacts on people. The activity comprises a set of mystery cards which need to be cut out and given to the students, who can
order them and use them to answer the questions provided. Two sets of questions are provided - a Higher and a Foundation version of the task. When the students have completed the activity, they should share their findings with the rest of the class and discuss the extension questions: What impact would so many extra people – such as those in Mayo camp – have on the services of an area? What impact would the additional people have on the environment?

PLENARY:

Suggestion 1 – 3-2-1 activity
In one minute, students tell two other students three things they have learnt during the lesson.

Suggestion 2 – KWL grid
Students complete the final column of the KWL grid from the starter activity with knowledge gained from this lesson. They can share their thoughts either as a class or in small groups (perhaps even in combination with the 3-2-1 activity).