

The build up to the Olympics in 2012 to be hosted in London should provide an excellent hook to engage Key Stage 3 students with many geographical themes on a range of **scales**. From 'personal geographies' of how young people regard the Olympics in relation to their own sporting activities and the **spaces** they frequent for exercise and sport, through to social, economic and environmental regeneration at a local, regional and national **scale** and the role of the Games in selling London the **place** as a 'World City' and the increasing **interdependence** of the local, regional, and national on this global scale.

The module begins at personal **scale** and asks students to consider what the Games means to them in respect of the vision of the 2012 at the bid "A games for the youth of the World". Personal geographies of how the Games might, or might not, achieve the vision of inspiring or benefiting them are explored and discussion around inclusion can be developed. Zooming out to the local scale, students consider how an area of East London, where most of the activity will take place, is likely to change and how this changing environment might influence **place** and quality of life for local residents and to what degree local residents can influence this change.

Environmental interaction and sustainable development at the regional scale is explored through plans for a 'green games' and the impact of further development in the region. Big sporting events such as the Olympics (or other leisure and recreation projects for that matter) can often achieve a positive multiplier effect, driving of economic development at a national scale through infrastructure improvements and inward investment.

Finally this module returns to the question of sustainability and selling London on the world stage. Although it will draw numerous benefits, there are questions about the sustainable growth of London in the future.

Focus on Key Concepts:

Scale

Human processes

Interdependence

Environmental Interaction and Sustainable development