

GEOGRAPHY

Welcome to the Geography Super Curriculum. Below you'll find a whole host of things to do to stretch yourself beyond the classroom curriculum.

30th September 2024 marked a significant day in UK history, as the last coal-fired power station shut down for good. As modern geographers, we understand the importance of this for our nation; actively reducing our environmental impact by significantly cutting carbon dioxide emissions is undoubtedly a positive step. However, the challenge remains: we still need a substantial amount of power. With the UK's population growing rapidly and our demand for electricity higher than ever, how can we ensure energy security?

Use this month's resources to explore the history of coal-fired power stations in the UK, the closure of the Ratcliffe-on-Soar plant, and what the future of energy production in the UK might look like.

READ

Read this article from *Internet Geography* about the closing down of the coal-fired plant in Ratcliffe-on-Soar:

[The End of Coal Power in the UK](https://internetgeography.net) - internetgeography.net

WATCH

Watch this news clip about the production of steel and the necessity for energy in the UK. It links in with the closing down of the plant in Ratcliffe-on-Soar and considers what a move to more renewable 'green' energy will mean for the consumer:

[The last coal-fired power station in the UK has been shut down in a move towards renewable energy](#) - Sky News

LISTEN

Listen to this news article from the COP 28 Conference in 2023, which outlines some of the reasons for the closure of the Ratcliffe-on-Soar power plant:

[COP28: UN climate talks go big on ending fossil fuels](#) - YouTube

DO

Read this article:

[The UK coal-fired power station that became a giant battery](#) - BBC Future Planet

Do you think repurposing the existing power station infrastructure is the right thing to do, or should we be investing money into other forms of renewable energy?

As you walk around your local area, consider whether there are opportunities for renewable energy production near you.