



The **key** KNOWLEDGE

## South Wales Subject Knowledge

South Wales (Welsh: De Cymru) is a region of Wales bordered by the Bristol Channel to the east and south, to the north lies the Brecon Beacons and Black Mountains. The region is loosely defined, but is generally considered to centre on the counties of Glamorgan and western Gwent.

The rocks of South Wales date from a very long time ago (the Carboniferous period). The iron ore, coal and limestone were found close to each other in the area of the North Crop, giving the initial boost to the heavy industry of South Wales in the 18th and 19th centuries. The Brecon Beacons (Welsh: Bannau Brycheiniog) a mountain range which lies at the heart of the Brecon Beacon National Park covers 520 square miles. The Cardiff Bay Development Corporation was formed to regenerate the Cardiff Bay area, to: provide a superb environment for people, re-link the city centre with the waterfront, create job opportunities and be an excellent example of an urban regeneration project.

The **key** VOCABULARY

Geographical vocabulary I need to learn	
coal	carbonised plant matter, found in underground seams and used as fuel.
iron	is a hard magnetic silvery-grey element. Its ore is smelted into the metal iron.
steel	a hard, strong grey metal, an alloy of iron, used for creating structures.
spoil heap	a place where mining waste is dumped.
limestone	a sedimentary rock laid down in shallow tropical seas.
isohyet	a line connecting points having the same amount of rainfall in a given period.
isotherm	a line connecting points having the same temperature.
National Park	an area of countryside, protected for the enjoyment of the general public or the conservation of the environment.
OS map	Ordnance Survey (OS) is the national mapping agency of UK. Maps show relief, land-use roads, footpaths, railway lines etc.
regeneration	bringing new development to an area.

The **key** QUESTIONS

Key questions to consider
How would I describe the physical landscape?
What human features would I see?
How has the region changed over time?
What is regeneration?

*to help me understand the human and physical geography of a region in the UK by thinking like a geographer*

The **key** SKILLS

KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS
Name and locate the region of South Wales using maps and atlases.
Begin to know some of the characteristics of the region in terms of its weather and climate.
Describe the types of mining practised in South Wales and identify aspects of the physical landscape.
Explain how iron and steel is made.
Understand how to locate mountain ranges in South Wales in particular Pen y Fan using OS maps.
Use relevant geographical vocabulary.
Explain the value and purpose of National Parks.
Plot the course of the River Taff.