Year 2 - Knowledge Organiser

The Environment – How can we look after our world?

Key Vocabulary	
environment	Our planet provides everything that we and all living things need. We call it our environment.
climate	Climate is the weather. The earth's climate is just right, meaning that things can live on the planet.
climate change	Climate change is the change in the overall weather and temperature on Earth. (Not the day-to-day weather). The Earth is getting warmer due to some of the things humans are doing. This means it will be more difficult for living things to survive.
atmosphere	The layer of air surrounding the Earth.
greenhouse gas	Greenhouse gases are special types of gas in the atmosphere. They let sunlight through but stop heat from escaping, like a greenhouse, so the Earth warms up.

Key Knowledge

Effects of climate change:

Key Vocabulary			
energy	Energy makes everything work.	**renewable**	Renewable power sources can be replaced. This means they will never run out. Solar power, wind power, geothermal power, biomass and wave power are all renewable power sources.
power	Electricity, gas and oil are all sources of power. They give us energy to make things work.	**endangered**	Being endangered means that scientists think that a type of animal or plant is at risk.
non-renewable	Non-renewable power sources such as coal, oil and gas can't be replaced once they have been used. Scientists think these are running out.	**extinct**	Extinct means that there are none of that type of animals or plant left alive.

Key Knowledge

Renewable power sources:

Wind turbines turn the energy from wind into electricity.

Solar panels turn the energy from sunshine into electricity.

The energy from heat deep underground can be turned into electricity. This is geothermal energy.

Biomass means 'natural material'. It is burned to create energy.