

Top Ideas – First time at Conference

Networking

1. Conference is a great time to network so talk to others during breaks and when appropriate during lectures and workshops – the geography community is a friendly bunch.
2. Take part in the Secondary Phase Committee (SPC) Geographer Bingo game, which is a great ice breaker. You could get autographs from headline geographers and tweet photos of you with them. Also, be sure to visit the SPC stand to say hello and to enter prizes!

Workshops and lectures

1. Go to a workshop or lecture that is outside your comfort zone – a key stage or topic you are less familiar with.
2. Decide which workshops and lectures to attend in advance.

Making the most of the exhibition

1. Introduce yourself to exhibitors and collect the free resources that are on offer.
2. Bring along a big bag – for those free resources.
3. Explore the exhibition early and late in the day as these are the quietest periods.
4. Visit the exhibition right at the end of the conference for extra freebies and discounted items.
5. Come along with an allowance to spend for your department to better manage your budget.
6. Enter the exhibition prize draws.
7. Visit the exam boards and chat about your specification to stay up to date with any changes (and visit [this page](#) for National Curriculum guidance and advice).

Getting involved with the conference

1. Visit the SPC stand and swap a resource in our free Swap Box. We will have a map covered box on our stand with resources in it. Please bring a resource from your school and swap it with one in the box.
2. Keep up to date with what is going on via Twitter using the hash tags #gaconf16 and #GA_SPC
3. Join the Beer Meet to meet fellow geographers in the evening. Search on Twitter #gaconf15 #beermeet for information about this unofficial event.

Practical tips

1. Print off your contact details on stickers – saves time when filling in forms or leaving contact details with others.
2. Bring a waterproof – it's THE fashion accessory of conference!
3. Wear comfortable shoes.
4. Write your name nice and large on your delegate badge – this helps when introducing yourself to others.