



Overview

In this 60 minute activity, students have the opportunity to consider how green their school currently is and to think about ways they can develop its 'green status'. An additional half an hour activity could be incorporated to interview the caretaker to discuss the on-site recycling activities. Time would be needed beforehand to discuss the types of questions that could be asked.

Materials

Resources and organisation:

- Individual whiteboards and pens
- Sugar paper and felt tip pens
- Organise the students into mixed ability groups and then pairs



Lesson Structure

0 - 10 minutes – Ask the children what being 'green' means to them. Elicit the understanding that being 'green' is all about trying to be as environmentally friendly as possible by recycling paper and plastics and being energy conscious. Generate a list of as many ways the children can think of.

10 - 20 minutes - Then ask the students to work in mixed ability groups to consider how green their school is. You may need to direct the discussion by referring to the list already made and if necessary, having some additional prompts, e.g. does the school recycle? Is there a school allotment where students can grow their own vegetables? Do they realise the importance of a healthy mind and how activity can help develop this? Ask the children to record their ideas onto large pieces of sugar paper. They could also think about what they recycle at home and feed this into the discussion.

20 – 25 minutes – Ask each group to present their ideas to the rest of the class and then ask each group to reflect on the impact that these ideas could have firstly on their local area and on the planet as a whole.

25 – 40 minutes – Extend students' ideas by raising additional suggestions, e.g. could the school:

- Promote a 'walk to school' week?
- Get involved in a scooter sharing scheme?
- Invite a 'bike doctor' in to repair bikes and scooters so students can start to travel into school on these?
- Explore the types of packaging in evidence at school taking into consideration packed lunches, resources etc. The students could make a display using this packaging and also add any packaging they collect over the period of a week at home.
- Do some fundraising to raise money to develop a patch of land into a forest school area?

40 – 60 minutes – This time, working in mixed ability pairs, ask students to choose one idea that they would like the school to adopt to make it greener and to design a poster to communicate their idea to the rest of the school. They may need extra time to complete their poster and time permitting, they could present their posters to the rest of the class.