



Lesson: Biodiversity and ecosystems 2



ACTIVITY OUTLINE



Introduce the term biodiversity to students, explore its meaning and harvest initial ideas as to the importance of biodiversity. This could be done in a way that could be added to throughout this lesson and the subsequent lesson.

Students make a spectrum of the “what biodiversity does for us” cards and use this to initiate a discussion.

Students share ideas on why nature is important to them personally. You might want to encourage them to close their eyes for a moment as they consider how being in nature makes them feel.

Explain the red list and the terms endangered and extinct. Discuss gradients of lines and students describe the patterns on the graph.

Explore reasons for loss of biodiversity. Give space for students to talk about how they feel eg about gorillas being endangered.

Palm oil gives an opportunity to introduce the ideas of responsible production and consumption and the effect of negative externalities.

This might be suitable place to end the first lesson by revisiting their spectrum. Homework could be making a cube or octahedron containing information about an animal on the red list.

Home learning or in class- students can make bug boxes and learn about which animals might benefit from them.



CURRICULUM OUTCOMES



Describe an example of an ecosystem which has many different species ensures resources are available for other populations, including humans.

Use evidence to explain how changes in the environment may leave species less well adapted to compete successfully and reproduce, which in turn may lead to extinction.

Explain how a lack of biodiversity can affect an ecosystem.



Lesson: Biodiversity and ecosystems 2 of 2



GLOBAL LEARNING OUTCOMES



RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION



Students understand that current production and consumption processes are not sustainable

Mass production and consumerism leads to negative externalities that contribute to inequality and often have a negative effect on low-income countries

Students can provide examples of how mass consumption processes can lead to the degradation of natural resources

CLIMATE ACTION



Students can name some different consequences of climate change and how these affect people, animals and plants

SMSC / British Values - Understanding of the consequences of their behaviour and actions

Action



The Rainforest Foundation UK has helped indigenous communities and local communities to protect more than 12 million hectares of rainforest. <https://www.rainforestfoundationuk.org/about-us>

The RFUK run a number of campaigns to tackle deforestation including a campaign against the growth of large scale palm oil plantations in Central Africa -

<https://www.rainforestfoundationuk.org/palmoil>

You can help in various ways, from persuading your parents to buy ethically sourced electricity to fundraising.

<https://www.rainforestfoundationuk.org/what-you-can-do>



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