



WORKING TOGETHER  
TO INSPIRE YOUNG  
PEOPLE TO SPEAK  
OUT FOR OUR PLANET



# Ecological Footprint

## Lesson Plan

<b>Form Time Activity</b>		<b>Length: 20 minutes</b>
<b>Objectives:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Understand the meaning of ecological footprints</li> <li>Understand the importance and impact of your ecological footprint</li> <li>Understand solutions to reducing your ecological footprint</li> </ul>		<b>Outline:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Description of what ecological footprint measures</li> <li>Discuss the impacts of a high ecological footprint</li> <li>Analyse and compare individual footprints</li> <li>Discuss ways to reduce your ecological footprint</li> </ul>
<b>Materials:</b> Tablet, computer or smartphone		
<b>Lesson Plan:</b>		
Slide	Time	Activities
1	30 sec	Introduce the form time activity using the outline above.
2	30 sec	Ask students for initial ideas on the meaning of the term 'ecological footprint', in order to determine students' initial understanding.
3	2 min	<p>Read through the definition.</p> <p><i>Further Notes.</i></p> <p><i>The impact of human activities measured in terms of the area of biologically productive land and water required to produce the goods consumed and to assimilate the wastes generated.</i></p> <p><i>More simply, it is the amount of the environment necessary to produce the goods and services necessary to support a particular lifestyle.</i></p>
4	2 min	<p>Invite thoughts on the impact of using up the world's resources at a faster rate than they can be replenished, especially upon future generations.</p> <p><i>Further Notes.</i></p> <p><i>The human population is expected to use the equivalent of 2 Earths of renewable resources per year by 2050.</i></p> <p><i>Only half of what we use can be replenished by the Earth. As the Earth then has less resources, it is less able to replenish that amount the next time. Gradually we whittle away the resources to nothing.</i></p> <p><i>The effect of this overuse is a growing scarcity of resources. For example, 2.7 billion people face water scarcity at least one month out of the year.</i></p>
5	10 min	<p>Students will now work out their own footprint.</p> <p>One way to measure your impact is to look at your carbon footprint.</p> <p><a href="http://www.wwf.org.uk/footprint">www.wwf.org.uk/footprint</a> - Students may need help with some questions.</p>
6	5 min	<p>Allow students time to compare their carbon footprint in groups and/or with the class, guided by the questions on the slide. Clicking on 'view full results' will give a breakdown of where their carbon footprint is largest.</p> <p>End the session by asking students to make a pledge to reduce their ecological footprint.</p>



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Extra activity if time allows:

Ask all students to stand up. Ask them to sit down if they have a score higher than 20 tonnes. keep going down until the last person is standing (the person with the lowest carbon footprint). What can the rest of the class learn from this person?