Sustainability

Think Global, Act Local



Years 5 & 6

Your students will consider how to sustain the environment, the society and the economy. They will be immersed in the work of geographers as they consider how the data that they collect helps to inform sustainable actions. Your students will build a weather station to collect weather data at school. They will research a country in Europe or North America. They will present their research at the 'Tourism Expo' to convince visitors to come to their country.

Rationale

Learning about the natural world, and how we are changing it, motivates us to live sustainably.

Essential questions

- What causes natural disasters?
- How do geographers and scientists study the environment?
- How do meteorologists collect weather data and why is this important?
- How does the environment influence how people live, work and play?

Glossary

sustain, environment, society, economy, geography, natural, systems, maps, hazards, disasters, tourism, scientist, interdependence, applied, political, physical, global, population, distribution, positive, negative, financial, flood, tornado, cyclone, bushfire, earthquake, landslide, volcano, adaptation, desert, harsh, drought, vegetation, observations, conclusions, influence, interaction, independent, impact

Rich assessment task

Students will work in small groups to build instruments to measure weather. They will practise science inquiry skills as they make observations and analyse their data to compare predictions. Later in the unit, they will work collaboratively to prepare a travel expo stand for a country in Europe or North America. Each group will also research weather and climate for their country and an interesting event or cultural celebration that occurs in the country.

Future action

Your students will consider their actions on the sustainability of their world. They will understand how scientific and geographic thinking can impact on sustainable practices. Your students will understand how Meteorologists collect and record weather data. They will develop a curiosity about other countries and identify themselves as global citizens.