

What can we do to change our cities?

Description of the lesson:

This lesson was developed for children, who study at a primary school level. In this video they are told a fairytale about what happens to those cities, which don't care about environment.

Air pollution, waste, animals' extinction - this all can be prevented or minimized with human actions and during this stories kids can see what can be done.

Fairytale doesn't have any voiceover or any text, so it can be used for children all over the globe. Moreover, this lesson can be used on any amount of students. To make the lesson more interesting, it is recommended to use kahoot for the quiz or divide students into groups and make a small competition.

Used materials:

- A projector and a board (to show a video)
- A classroom
- Phones or computers (in case kahoot is included)

Video:

<https://youtu.be/4Ai5aYJD9Gc>

Quiz:

1. Were citizens of the city struggling with air pollution?

- a) Yes, they were
- b) No, they were not
- c) It was not mentioned in the video

Answer: They were struggling because cars emitted CO₂ in the air.

2. Did citizens care about how household trash was treated?

- a) Yes, they did
- b) No, they didn't
- c) Household trash??? No, it was not mentioned in the video

Answer: No, they didn't. Household trash was thrown out of the truck.

3. In the first part of the video, what was the main problem with industry producers?

- a) Factories were not following the law
- b) Factories were polluting the air, water and cutting trees

c) Factories did not cause any environmental problems

Answer: Factories were polluting the air, water and cutting trees. It can be seen in the drawing that factories cause environmental pollution

4. Did people and industry change their attitude towards more sustainable practices?

a) Yes, they did by changing their behavior and activities

b) No, everything remained the same

c) Why would they change??

Answer: Yes, they did by changing their behavior and activities. It can be seen that people and factories switched to sustainable practices.

5. What do you think, can sustainability improve people's well being?

a) Yes, it certainly can

b) No, it can't

c) Sustainability is just a popular word

Answer: Yes, it certainly can. It can be seen in the video that after sustainable activities were implemented, people well being increased.

References

Smyth, S. J., Aerni, P., Castle, D., Demont, M., Falck-Zepeda, J. B., Paarlberg, R., Phillips, P. W. B., Pray, C. E., Savastano, S., Wesseler, J., Zilberman, D. (2011). Sustainability and the bioeconomy: Policy recommendations from the 15th ICABR conference. *AgBioForum*, 14(3), pp. 180-186.

Bishop, J., Kean, J. and Adams, E. (1992). Children, environment and education. *Children's Environments* 9 (1), 49-67.

Chawla, L. and Rivkin, M. (2014). Early childhood education for sustainability in the United States of America. In Davis J. and Elliott, S. (Eds.), *Research in early childhood education for sustainability: International perspectives and provocations* (pp. 248-265). London: Routledge.

The UNEP-International Environment Technology Centre (IETC) (2003). *Urban Waste Management Strategy*, United Nations Environment Programme Division of Technology, Industry and Economics, UNEP-IETC.

Vidal, John. How are cities around the world tackling air pollution? [Online] *The Guardian*, May 17, 2016. <https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2016/may/17/how-are-cities-around-the-world-tackling-air-pollution>.

Jouni Korhonen et al. (2018). Circular Economy: The Concept and its Limitations. *Ecological Economics*, 143, pp. 37-46.