

Lesson Plan: The Plastic Age

Author: Ana Zelalija

Topic:

plastic pollution, microplastics, sustainability

Aims:

Learners will:

- learn about the characteristics of plastic, its good and bad sides
- develop critical thinking by analysing the impact plastic has on humans and the environment
- use their communicative, collaborative and creative skills to discuss the topic and brainstorm ideas to protect the environment

Age of learners:

13 – 15

Time: 90 minutes

The activities in the lesson guide learners through the topic of plastic and its impact on the environment. The lesson also helps learners to develop their critical thinking skills and helps them make decisions to become active citizens

Procedure:

Lead in: Ask learners to follow the instructions in exercises A and B.

Students continue their work on task C in order to learn more about the material we know as plastic. They exchange their findings. This is also a great opportunity to talk about its good sides and bad ones as well.

Reading activity: Tell students that they are now going to read a text about the influence of plastic on the environment and what dangers it can cause.

After the reading activity, students work in groups and come up with ideas of how the problem of plastic pollution can be solved.

Possible answers:

try to use less plastic

recycle

use natural materials more often, refuse to buy plastic items

organise or take part in a beach clean-up

Microplastics are tiny pieces of plastic that can be found in sand on the beach.

(bottle caps, plastic cups and plates, food wrappers, beverage bottles, grocery bags, straws, food containers)

Final part:

Each group presents their work. This is an opportunity to have a discussion and motivate students to become active citizens. The results of this activity can be turned into a poster. Students' works can be displayed on classroom walls.