

Climate Change: The Human Impact

Activity 2.5: Research Project with case studies – Bangladesh, Haiti and Tanzania

Ages: 12+

Time required: 1 hour + 1–2 week research project

Aims

- Increase understanding about how climate change has affected individual people in different countries.
- Increase understanding of how people adapt the way they live and work as a result of flooding, hurricanes, tropical storms, cyclones etc.
- Self-led research project.

You will need

- Access to resources that can be used for research
- Question sheet

What to do

Introduce the topic by getting the students to discuss the following:

Identity

Who am I?
Where do I come from?
Who is my family?
What is my story?
Who are the people around me?
Where do they come from?
What is their story?

My place in the world

Where do I live?
How does it look?
How do I feel about it?
How is it changing?
How do I want it to change?

Then divide students into 3 groups and assign each group with a different case study (Bangladesh, Haiti or Tanzania). This will form the basis of their project, which would be best carried out over 1-2 weeks. Most areas of the curriculum could be covered including RE and maths.

Use the question sheet as a basis for the research of the case study.

Question sheet

Research

- Get some statistics on the chosen country (population, size, GDP etc.)
- Find out about key landmarks, rivers, mountains etc.
- Look at the people their culture, dress, traditions, festivals, language and religions.
- What might you see, hear, touch and smell in this environment?
- Look at the climate and weather in the chosen area or continent.
- Look at the food and natural resources we import from the continent and think about the sustainability of the environment and farming e.g. Fair-trade.

Select one or two environmental problems affecting the location and investigate possible causes and discuss how it could be solved – link to the small actions we could take.

- What could be the impact of climate change now and in the future?
- What could we do (however small) to help prevent or slow it down?

Actions

Design posters or a campaign to make others aware of what is happening.

Investigate a day in the life of a child of a similar age to you/the class.

Design a leaflet to explain what is happening and how we could help.

Extra activities

- Present your ideas to the class or school/ carry out a pupil led assembly
- Use the school kitchen to cook food from the country or continent.
- Organise an event to make pledges or raise money.
- Open a discussion group on the school site/learning platform.
- Arrange to have a talk from an Oxfam volunteer.
- Visit the Bicester Water and Sanitary Emergency Aid Warehouse.