

THE <<FEEDU PROJECT>> - Tool N.

1. Name of the tool

Carbon Consequences

2. Introduction

This resource is designed to raise awareness about how everyday actions are related to energy use. Through constructing chains of the processes involved in everyday actions pupils become aware of the 'hidden' energy use in activities such as consuming fast food.

3. Experience with the Activity

I have used similar ideas to this particular tool when I was teaching and have found these sorts of card games very useful in provoking thought and discussion amongst pupils. It is a good collaborative activity and pupils enjoy making their chains as long as possible and are often surprised at what they discover through this process.

- **Goal:** To illustrate through examples the surprising number of direct and indirect ways that we use energy and to show how we can take steps to reduce this energy use.

- **Material:** Three packs of cards.

1. Activity Pack - Illustrations of everyday activities e.g. Driving to a fast food restaurant

2. Consequences Pack - Illustrations of the negative consequences of these activities e.g. use of a car. Each activity will have more than one of these consequences.

3. Responsibilities Pack - Illustrations of responsible actions that could be taken to balance out/remove negative impacts e.g. walking or using a local shop and preparing own food.

- **Procedure:** Place pupils in groups of about 4 with space to lay out cards. Allocate one activity card to each group. Allocate a complete consequences pack to each group. Through a discussion of the environmental impacts of the activity the pupils can build chains of the negative consequences of these actions.

When pupils have completed their consequence chains, give one responsibility pack to each group. Pupils must decide where they can place these in the chains to reduce the negative impacts. Use this activity to generate discussion about with whom the responsibilities lie and any limiting factors in the process.

➤ **Conclusions**

The pupils realise how that many activities have a 'hidden' energy use and that we must think carefully about many things we do in order to make responsible choices.

Guidelines for Teachers

This would make a very good introductory activity as it starts pupils thinking about the wider implications of their actions. It is an eye opener that generates a lot of topical discussion and can be used to gauge the pupils' current level of understanding and conceptions.

The activity is very versatile and would bear repetition at a later point to see if pupils have different ideas or can add cards of their own.

It is helpful to place this activity alongside information about climate change and messages of why it is important to reduce energy use. It is also very useful in teaching pupils about making good choices and responsible decisions.

Tool Rating (* = Ok *** = Excellent)**

I rate Carbon Cosequences - *****
Thought provoking and enjoyable.

Contact

For more information about this resource contact:

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Original idea from Centre for Sustainable Energy - Citizenship Education to Cut Carbon

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