

Date	Class level Fifth and Sixth Class	Subject Geography
Strand Human Environments	Strand Unit Living in the local community	
Title What I would do with my Local Seashore...		
Objective(s) The aim of the lesson plan is for children to identify the beach as a place where people can enjoy. Through project work, students will create a postcard campaign to raise awareness and suggest ways that the beach could be kept clean and safe.		
Skills Required A sense of place and space; Use of pictures and maps; Observing; Questioning; Investigating; Communication.		
Learning objectives The children will be enabled to: Identify the seashore as an area in the locality that needs to be cared for by the community. Examine pictorial evidence that shows how badly beaches are being polluted. Consider how this litter affects them. Design and create a message and send a postcard to a key decision maker in your community about how to help keep the seashore safe and clean. Write an article or a story for the school newsletter or your local newspaper about what they would like the community to do with the local seashore.		Learning activities Talk and Discussion: Discuss with the class places where we have recreational space in our community. Elicit answers such as green areas, playgrounds and beaches from the pupils. These could be identified on an aerial map of the locality. Photos and Artefacts: In an effort to generate awareness amongst the pupils, show photographs of seashores and beaches littered with rubbish and animals that are affected by marine litter. Explain to the pupils the grim fact that people are far more likely to litter at the beach. Allow the children some individual think time to consider whether this litter hampers our enjoyment at the beach. Allow the children to come forward with their opinions e.g. it makes it dangerous to play on the beach as we may cut our fingers on some broken glass. Discuss how animals at the seashore and in the ocean (such as seagulls, dolphins and turtles etc), get sick when they feast on these unhealthy snacks – such as fast food wrappers and plastic bags left behind by people. Also rubbish from landfills or even from our homes and communities can get

caught in the wind and blow out to sea. This can also affect animals in the ocean who get caught up in the rubbish or eat it.

Active Learning/Collaborative Learning:

Divide the children into groups of 3 or 4.

The students are each to come up with a campaign to raise awareness in their community about their local seashore. The campaign should include “what they would do with their seashore...”.

The students are to design a postcard with a positive message. The key message may include how they would organise making the seashore a better place for tourists to visit e.g. what amenities are needed, organising and informing the public of the benefits of a beach clean, campaigning the local county or city council to have more rubbish bins for the seashore or maybe even rubbish bins etc.

This postcards may be sent to a key person / decision maker in the community. Or alternatively the person could be invited to launch the cards at the school, which are put up on display in the school library or public library.

The students should then write an article for the school newsletter or local paper about their project.

Active Learning:

An extension activity for this lesson could be a yard clean up with the class to increase awareness about how easily areas which are there to be enjoyed are being destroyed by litter bugs in our community!!

Resources

Aerial Map

Photographs of beach litter (attached)

See the Teachers resources on www.explorers.ie for Geography resources.



Explorers Education Programme

Differentiation

Higher and Lower order questioning. Differentiate group activities and roles to account of individual needs, by support, task. Mixed ability pairing.

Assessment

Teacher Observation and Questioning

Linkage and Integration

Drama-Children act out the various scenarios

SPHE- Myself and others.

Oral Language- The children use oral language to respond to the scenarios and help the wrongdoers see the error of their ways.

Science-Caring for the environment.

Explorers Education Programme

Marine Litter Photos





Explorers Education Programme

Worksheet: Design a Postcard

Front of the Postcard – find pictures or complete drawings, supporting your campaign

Back of the Postcard – create a campaign slogan, message on the back of the card

