Paper Usage & Waste



Lesson I - How much paper do you use?

Session Outline

Introduce the theme of paper which the CAT will focus on for the next three sessions.

Why is paper so useful? How many different uses can the children think of for paper in school?

Watch the video 'How paper is made' and discuss what implications this might have on the environment.

Discuss the climate impact of paper production.

Now it is time for the children to investigate the amount of paper used in school. Discuss the possible questions they could ask in order to find out more information.

Session Activity

Investigate the amount of paper used by your school in a school year. Children can use the questionnaire provided to interview a member of staff e.g. school business manager to find out more about paper usage.

Don't forget all these sheets can be uploaded online on to platforms like Google Classroom so you can edit them online instead of printing.

Home Activity / Link

Children can investigate the amount of paper used in their homes by finding out the different that paper is used e.g. letters, takeaway menus, drawing, wallpaper.

They can draw a picture of each on or make a list.



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Lesson 2 - How much paper do you waste?

Session Outline

Recap what the children found out last lesson about the impact of paper production on the environment.

Play a true or false game, using statements from last session.

Approximately 26% of the total waste in landfills is created by paper. But how much paper is actually being produced each year. Take a look at the online counter monitoring paper production.

www.theworldcounts.com/challenges/consumption/other-products/environmental-impact-of-paper

Now it is time for the children to investigate.

Session Activity

C.A.T are to monitor and investigate paper wastage across the school.

This could be carried out using the C.A.T paper waste audit template provided.

Home Activity / Link

Children could create something electronically that can be shared with your own families and others to raise awareness of the impact of paper production on the environment. Maybe a poster, website, presentation or even a video.



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Lesson 3 - What can you do to help reduce paper usage / waste?

Session Outline

Recap over what the children have learnt over the last few sessions.

What did the paper waste audit show them?

Brainstorm ideas for what they can do to tackle the problem areas. Have there any positive changes so far?

Take a look at the ideas and discuss how they can make a positive change across the school.

Session Activity

CAT to create an action plan for reducing paper waste across the school, including some of the ideas they brainstormed in the session.

Template provided.

Home Activity / Link

Children to discuss the problems with paper production and waste with their families. Decide on a few actions they can take as a family to help.

Ideas: Create a sign to refuse junk mail through the post, go paperless with mail e.g. bank statements, shred used brown paper & use on compost etc.



Paper Usage & Wastage

SUGGESTED ACTION LIST

Put a paper recycling bin in each room in school.
Raise awareness across the school community & encourage people use less paper and recycle more.
Make at least one positive change at home.