

Activity idea 21: Mayor for a day (two lessons)

In this activity students will conduct research in small groups into sustainable solutions for cities and present their ideas to the rest of the group.

Ask students to work in pairs or small groups and take on the role of mayor of a major city. What would they do to make their city sustainable? Students can research an existing city or work with an imaginary place. Students could write out their ideas or make a map/poster to present their solutions.

Students should start by thinking about the challenges to sustainable living that urban areas face and then think of creative solutions. They can be very realistic, but also encourage students to think outside the box and be creative. Students can use the internet to research what cities are already doing to become more sustainable.

Areas that students should include and consider are:

- Transport
- Housing
- Energy consumption
- Air quality
- Waste management
- Employment and education opportunities
- Green spaces

Related lesson activities from the main KS3 section:

- Activity 6: Rapid urbanisation
- Activity 7: Urban slums