

Activity idea 25: Comparing overfishing (40 minutes)

In this activity students will look at overfishing in Brazil (Rosemary) and Norway (Emilie) and compare the approaches taken by these countries to deal with the issue.

Ask students to watch the film clips for Rosemary and Emilie. Both Rosemary's uncle and Emilie's dad depend on fishing for their livelihood. In both countries the fish stocks are dwindling. Ask students what happens in Norway and what happens in Brazil? They should observe that Norway implemented a fish quota to preserve the fish stock.

Have students research what a fish quota is. Which countries have done something similar? Why haven't all countries done this? Why doesn't it work everywhere (e.g. lack of resources to implement, lack of political will, etc.)?

Calculate your global footprint (40 minutes to two lessons)

Encourage your students to examine their own consumption behaviour and its impact on the global environment. Students can do this by looking at all the products they use and consume during the day: what are they made of and where do they come from? They can look at the labels in their clothing, books, other school materials, food, drinks, etc. How much energy do they use during the day? Lights, washing machine, computer, TV, etc. Transportation? Do they go on holiday by plane, train or car? How much water do they use? Baths, showers, washing a car, dishes, etc.

Ask students to record all of the above. There are helpful tools on the internet that can then help them calculate the size of their carbon footprint.

Once students have done this, you could then encourage them to change at least one thing to make their lives more sustainable.

Related lesson activities from the main KS3 section:

- Activity 14: Overfishing
- Activity 15: Balancing demands
- Activity 16: Resource depletion and pollution