

'One Planet Living' Snakes and Ladders

Notes for Teachers

This game is a new 'eco' version of the traditional game 'Snakes and Ladders' developed for use by primary pupils, with extra features to spark discussion and debate! It can be used in a variety of settings:

- In the KS2 classroom, to support curriculum work on protecting the environment
- By an Eco Team, to inform action planning
- As a group activity during an Environment Day or Week
- In informal settings such as wet play or after-school clubs

The game comprises a Snakes and Ladders board (which should be printed onto A3 paper / card) and 4 sets of game cards covering the 'eco' topics waste, water, energy and wildlife. Before playing the game, decide which topics you would like pupils to focus on and print the appropriate cards onto A4 paper.

- Energy: pages 1 to 4
- Waste: pages 5 to 8
- Water: pages 9 to 12
- Wildlife: pages 13 to 16

Print the cards double sided, and if possible in colour and on thin card. There are 9 cards per page; trim these with a guillotine before use.

Introducing the game

First introduce pupils to the idea of One Planet Living. If everybody in the world lived as we do in Brighton and Hove we would need 3½ planets to support us! We cannot continue to consume huge amounts of water, energy and resources and to pollute our air, land and seas; our current way of life is not sustainable.

The good news is that Brighton & Hove is the world's first One Planet City. This means we are working hard together to achieve One Planet Living, using 10 principles of sustainability (for more details see www.bioregional.co.uk/oneplanetliving/). Our local area has also been recognised as a world-class Biosphere, an international site of excellence for meeting peoples' needs and improving our environment (see <http://biospherehere.org.uk/>).



This Snakes and Ladders game focuses on four of the ten One Planet Living principles: sustainable water, zero waste, land use and wildlife and zero carbon. To help pupils understand some of the issues surrounding these topics, the following short videos, made for primary pupils, may be useful:



Sustainable water

<http://biospherehere.org.uk/resources/video/>

Two 'Our Water Matters' videos focusing on the water cycle in the Brighton & Hove area.



Zero waste

<http://zone.recycledevon.org/videos>

A short video about the Energy from Waste process in Exeter. Brighton & Hove's waste is taken to a similar plant in Newhaven.






Zero carbon

<http://powerdown.actionaid.org.uk/>

'Be the solution', a video introducing children to the connection between our energy use and global climate change.

Playing the game

-  Pupils play the game in small groups. If you are using the game with an Eco Team we recommend mixed age groups, so that older pupils can support younger ones when reading the game cards.
-  Each group will need:
 - a Snakes and Ladders board and a die
 - a pile of 'snake' cards (if using more than one 'eco' topic, mix the 'snake' cards up)
 - a pile of 'ladder' cards (if using more than one 'eco' topic, mix the 'ladder' cards up)
 - one game counter per pupil (e.g., an old button or piece of lego)
 - one piece of scrap paper and a pencil for making notes
-  Play the game as you would traditional Snakes and Ladders. When a child lands at the bottom of a ladder or on the head of a snake, s/he takes a card with the corresponding picture and reads it to the group. They briefly discuss the scenario described. If it is a 'snake' card, is the problem one that occurs in your school? If so, what could be done to solve this problem? If it is a 'ladder' card, is the action one that could be implemented in your school? Pupils use scrap paper to make a note of their ideas.

Plenary

Groups feed back their ideas for school action and discuss how to progress these. Don't forget to add their ideas to your Eco-Schools Action Plan, to supplement the plans generated by staff and pupils following your Environmental Review.

Feedback

If you have any feedback about this game, or any other BHee resources, please contact Helen:

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