

Adapting to an urban future

Lesson plan 2

<p>Lesson 2: What can we learn from ‘Cities of the Future’?</p>
<p>Aim: To understand that sustainability is a key issue for the future of cities and to suggest how sustainable practices can be applied to UK cities.</p>
<p>Objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To know the ‘top’ 5 most sustainable cities today and to identify their sustainable credentials. • To assess how sustainable strategies could be applied to a UK city. • To understand the strengths and limitations of these strategies.
<p>To get you thinking... If you could live in any city in the world where would it be and why? Are any of these choices sustainable cities? What is a sustainable city? Students produce a class definition.</p>
<p>Developing your ideas... The class will host a ‘Sustainable Cities International Conference’ where ‘experts’ from the top 5 present their sustainable achievements. In small groups, students prepare a short presentation to show why and how their city is one of the top 5. The audience represents local government from their local city. They are listening with a view to applying some of these strategies to their own city. Students vote to present award for most sustainable city linking back to their definition of what a sustainable city is.</p> <p>Challenge the concept... As a class or in small groups, students should assess the strengths and limitations of at least 3 different ideas. Could use a SWOT (Strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats) analysis of a specific sustainable scheme such as the bike hire scheme in Copenhagen, with a view to implementing it in the UK. These could be shared so each strategy is covered.</p>
<p>Plenary discussion points... What would you do? The class vote for 2 main strategies to be applied. Students decide which strategies are most appropriate for their UK city of the future and justify their decisions. 30 second persuasive speech to convince local government, business and the public that their ideas should be applied. Possible extension/ homework:</p>
<p>Resources</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • City resource sheet