

Sustainability: Protecting Our Precious Planet

Learning objective: To understand the concept of sustainability and identify how human choices impact the environment and natural resources.

Read each question carefully. Use your knowledge of geography and environmental stewardship to provide detailed, thoughtful answers.

Sustainability means meeting our current needs without damaging the ability of future generations to meet theirs. Finn the dolphin explores the world's oceans and notices how plastic pollution and overfishing affect the delicate balance of marine life. Meanwhile, Bea the honeybee works to keep our ecosystems thriving by pollinating plants and maintaining biodiversity. Together, they want to know how we can make better choices to protect our planet for the future.

Word bank: Sustainability · Renewable · Conservation · Carbon footprint · Natural resources · Biodiversity · Recycling · Ecosystem

1. Define the term 'sustainability' in your own words. Why is it important for us to think about the needs of future generations? (2 marks)

2. Finn the dolphin is worried about plastic pollution in the ocean. Explain two ways that a school could reduce its plastic waste to help protect marine ecosystems. (2 marks)

3. Compare and contrast 'renewable' and 'non-renewable' resources. Give one example of each to justify your answer. (3 marks)

4. If a local shop sells apples grown in a nearby orchard for £1.50, and imported apples from across the world for £1.20, which is the more sustainable choice? Explain your reasoning. (3 marks)

5. What might happen to the local food chain if an area loses its biodiversity, such as the wildflowers that Bea the honeybee relies on? (2 marks)

6. Justify why it is more sustainable to repair a broken toy or piece of clothing rather than throwing it away and buying a new one. (2 marks)

Draw: Draw a 'Sustainable City of the Future'. Include at least three features that help the environment, such as wind turbines, community gardens, or cycle lanes, and label them.



Extension challenge: Design a week-long 'Sustainability Challenge' for your family. Create a table to track three daily habits you will change to reduce your household's carbon footprint. At the end of the week, write a short reflection on how difficult or easy these changes were to maintain and whether they saved your family any money.