

Sustainability Superstars: Geography Flashcards

Learning objective: To understand the core concepts of sustainability, renewable resources, and our environmental impact on the planet.

Use these flashcards to test your knowledge of sustainability. Finn the dolphin suggests focusing on how our daily choices impact the world's oceans and ecosystems.

What is meant by the term 'Sustainability'?

Meeting the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.

Define a 'Renewable Resource'.

A natural resource which can be replenished naturally over time, such as solar, wind, or wave energy.

Give an example of a 'Non-renewable Resource'.

Fossil fuels like coal, oil, or natural gas, which take millions of years to form and cannot be replaced once used.

What is a 'Carbon Footprint'?

The total amount of greenhouse gases, specifically carbon dioxide, generated by our actions and lifestyle choices.

Explain the concept of 'Conservation'.

The protection, preservation, and careful management of the natural environment and wildlife to prevent extinction and habitat loss.

Why is 'Biodiversity' important for a healthy planet?

A wide variety of plant and animal life ensures that ecosystems are resilient and capable of recovering from environmental changes.

What does it mean if a resource is 'Finite'?

It means there is a limited supply that will eventually run out, such as minerals or ores mined from the earth.

Explain why recycling is a key part of sustainability.

It reduces the need to extract new raw materials, saves energy, and decreases the amount of waste sent to landfills.

What is the 'Three Rs' hierarchy in sustainability?

Reduce, Reuse, and Recycle; listed in order of importance for minimising environmental impact.

Justify why using solar power is more sustainable than using coal.

Solar power is infinite and produces no harmful emissions during energy generation, whereas coal is finite and releases significant greenhouse gases.

What might happen if we continue to consume non-renewable resources at our current rate?

We risk exhausting these essential energy sources, leading to economic instability and severe long-term environmental damage.

Compare and contrast 'renewable' and 'non-renewable' resources.

Renewable resources replenish naturally and quickly, non-renewable resources exist in fixed amounts and take geological timescales to reform.