COCOA CLIMATE LESSON PLAN FOR PRIMARY SCHOOLS

This lesson introduces the topic of climate, giving children the opportunity to compare the climate in the UK with the climate in the cocoa growing region of West Africa. An extension activity is available that examines how the climate crisis impacts these two different regions.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- Learners can compare the climate in the UK with a cocoa growing region in West Africa
- Learners can consider how the climate crisis impacts these two regions

YOU WILL NEED

- Starter Photograph
- Film 'Cocoa climate'
- Cocoa climate worksheet

STARTER ACTIVITY

Introduce the lesson by showing the children the Starter Photograph. Explain that this is a picture of a farmer on her farm. Ask the children the following questions to prompt discussion in pairs:

- What type of farmer do you think this is?
- What is growing on this farmer's farm?
- Where in the world is this?
- What do you think the temperature is like in this photograph?
- Could this photograph be in the UK? Why do you think this?

Elicit answers, discuss responses, and explain that this is Madame Bazoua, a cocoa farmer who lives in Côte d'Ivoire in West Africa.

MAIN ACTIVITY

This film and follow-up worksheet will develop students understanding of climate in temperate and tropical rainforest climates.

- Introduce the film 'Cocoa Climate'. Explain that the class are going to find out about the different climates in the UK, and in the cocoa growing region of West Africa.
- Watch the 3-minute film 'Cocoa Climate'.
- Ask the students: What are the differences between these two climates? What are the similarities?
- After watching 'Cocoa Climate', ask the students, in pairs, to use the follow-up Cocoa Climate worksheet to record these similarities and differences
- Remind the children to record the types of agriculture in these two climates.

EXTENSION

In the film 'Cocoa Climate', the students learnt that the climate crisis is changing the weather patterns in different climate zones. This is already having a detrimental effect on cocoa farmers in tropical climates.

- Ask the children to use a different coloured pen or pencil to record the effects of the climate crisis on their Venn diagram. How are temperate climates affected by the climate crisis? How are tropical rainforest climates affected by the climate crisis? How are the people in those environments affected?
- Students can be supported by a tablet, non-fiction books or computers to extend their learning if desired.
- Peer-review. Once each pair has completed their Venn diagram, ask them to swap with another group. Have they come to the same conclusions? Is there anything that they have learnt from the other groups recordings?

FOLLOW-UP IDEAS

- Ask the children to prepare a suitcase for travelling to a temperate climate and a tropical rainforest climate.
- Create your vision of the world you want for farmers and workers worldwide, and the planet that we share. Take part in the 'Choose the world you want' Youth Exhibition for Fairtrade Fortnight 2021