

THE ENVIRONMENT

LESSON 4: GLOBAL WARMING

Lesson aim:

- To highlight the importance of environmental issues to workers.
- To draw a link between environmental protection, job security and trade unions.

Learning objectives:

At the end of this lesson students will be able to:

- explain how a changing environment and climate might effect workers.

Lesson outline:

Further lesson plans and activities are available to download from www.youth-connect.ie

In-class activity: Opening discussions

Ask students what they know about climate change and global warming. Ask them why is it important to talk about these topics. Copy the Global Warming worksheet for each student and ask them to complete it.

In-class activity: Group discussions

Ask students to work in groups and consider the following questions:

- What can individuals who are environmentally aware do to reverse global climate change?
- Many developed countries demand the developing world takes account of environmental factors but will environmental policies address the problem of widespread poverty around the world?
- Does there have to be a political choice between a growing economy and looking after the environment?

Student assignment: Essay

Ask students to choose one of the following for an essay on global warming and environmental awareness:

- Globalisation: Are we victims of the worst excesses of the world or can we avoid them?
- Think globally and act locally – what can I do for my environment?

Additional resources

These websites provide more information about the environment, climate change and actions that can be taken:

Conservation International www.conservation.org

Fauna & Flora International www.fauna-flora.org

Greenpeace www.greenpeace.org

National Geographic www.nationalgeographic.org

Nature Conservancy www.nature.org/volunteer

Roots & Shoots www.rootsandshoots.org/aboutus

World Watch www.worldwatch.org

World Wildlife Fund www.wwf.org

YouthXChange www.youthxchange.net

Additional lesson plans and worksheets can be downloaded from the teachers' area on the YouthConnect website www.youth-connect.ie