

What's going on this week?

Sir David Attenborough has celebrated the efforts of young people who have "woken up the world to the threat of climate change." Sir David became the fastest person to have one million followers on Instagram recently after he joined the social media platform to reach out to younger people, many of whom support his message of protecting the natural world.

Main question:

Is it the responsibility of the young to protect the planet?

Listen, think, share

- Look at this week's poster and talk about what we can see. Does anyone know who the man is? It is David Attenborough, do we know why he is famous and why he might be on the news? Explain that David Attenborough has been making films and TV programmes about nature and the world for many years. He is very worried about climate change and the impact of some of our actions on the world. Why do you think he might have chosen social media as a way to spread his message?
- Explain that David Attenborough believes that the younger generation have a lot of power to create change. Do you agree? Why?
- Read each of the quotes found on the assembly resource from Sir David Attenborough. Talk through each one and think about your own impact in the wider world. Are there any changes you think you could make to help protect the planet?
- Watch this week's useful video (found overleaf), which shows an interview with Sir David Attenborough. Talk about what you think his main message is and the changes that you think he'd like to see in how we behave and the choices we make

Reflection

We all have a part to play in taking care of the world we live in. It's important we understand the impact of our actions and do our best to act in a responsible way.



KS1 Focus

Question:

What are some of the things we can do to help take care of the planet?

Listen, think, share

- Look at this week's question. What do you think it means? When you take care of something, what do you do? Discuss examples such as taking care of our homes, our pets, ourselves, our friends.
- Explain that our planet is called Earth and it is home to many plants and animals, including us!
 It is important we try to take care of our planet.
 Can you think of any ways we can do this?
- Look at resource 1, where some children share some of the things they do to help. Do you think some things help more than others? Who do you think is helping our planet the most? Why?
- Discuss some of the things you are already doing in school that help our planet e.g. recycling, turning off lights and electronic equipment, walking to school.
- Is there anything else you could do as a class?
 Discuss things such as upcycling, dedicating a patch of the school grounds to growing vegetables or growing seeds in pots.
- Create a list/plan of action of additional things you could do as a class to help take care of the planet.

Reflection

There are many things we can do to help take care of our planet. Even if our action seems small, if everyone works together, it can have a big impact!



KS2 Focus

Question:

What are some of the ways we can help to raise awareness about issues we care about?

Listen, think, share

- Write the words 'raise awareness' on the board.
 What do you think it means? Explain that to raise awareness means to increase the level/amount of people who know about something.
- Do you think that raising awareness about issues we care about is important? Do you think the more people who know about something, the more likely positive changes will happen?
- Think about some of the issues you care about e.g. the environment, animals being cared for properly, having a local park/shop, having a sports club at school, being healthy etc. Create a list. How could you raise awareness of these issues?
- Look at resource 2, which gives examples of ways we can raise awareness. Have you ever done any of these? Which do you think might have the largest impact?
- Do you think that people like David Attenborough are able to raise more awareness about issues than perhaps we are? Why do you think this is?
- Explain that we can share issues that we care about with others, who might have access to a larger audience than we do, such as our local MP or somebody famous or influential.

Reflection

We all have a voice. When we care about something or want to make a difference, there are many ways we can share our message and make our voices heard.



KS2 Follow-up Ideas

Option 1: As a class, ask the children to think about something they care about. It might be something linked to this week's story and protecting our planet or it might be something you are focusing on within your local community. Think about:

- How can we raise awareness?
- Do we need to raise funds?
- What challenges or restrictions are there at this current time that may affect how you choose to raise funds or awareness?

Put together a plan and assign teams and roles within the class e.g. a team to create posters/leaflets, a team to create a video for the school website, a team to write to your MP or somebody influential. Work together to have your voice heard and make a difference!

Option 2: Challenge the children to make something useful using items that were going to be thrown away! Think about:

- What are you going to make e.g. a bag, a pen pot, a place mat, a photo frame?
- What items, that were going to be thrown away, could you use to make it?
- How will you make it?
- What other resources might you need?

Ask the children to plan and then create their useful item.



KS1 Follow-up Ideas

Option 1: Ask the children to remind you of some of the things we can do in school to help protect our planet. Record a list on the board. Explain that we can help remind others in school by sharing these things on a poster.

- Which message do you want to share e.g. recycle, turn off lights, try to walk to school?
- Will you include a picture on your poster?
- Where will you display your poster? Once the posters are finished, display them in school. You could perhaps even share some to your school website or social media to spread the message even further!

Option 2: Explain that people often plant bulbs at this time of year so that they will flower in the spring.

- Can you name any flowers?
- Do you recognise any plants in your school grounds?
- Do you know why plants are important for the planet?

Tell the children that plants produce oxygen, which we need to breathe. If possible, use the opportunity to plant some bulbs in the school grounds, daffodils are great and you will hopefully be able to see them flower with your class in the spring!



This Week's Useful Websites This week's news story

www.bbc.co.uk/news/entertainment-arts-54281171



This Week's Useful Videos

David Attenborough Interview www.standard.co.uk/news/uk/david-attenborough-bbc-interview-extinction-rebellion-a4557666.html



This week's Virtual Assembly www.picture-news.co.uk/discuss

This Week's Useful Vocabulary

Celebrate – to honour and praise publicly.

Generation – all the people born and living at about the same time.

Impact – a strong effect or influence on something.

Protect – prevent something from being harmed or damaged or to preserve it.

Responsible – behaving properly and sensibly.

Threat – the possibility of trouble or danger.