

S2 Topic 3c – Sustainability

· Sustainability means using our resources so they last and do little harm to the environment.
· Big problems with sustainability include single use plastic, power generation, use of water, and growing food
· Renewable energy sources are more sustainable than using fossil fuels.
· Renewable energy sources do have some disadvantages.
· We can save money and energy by insulating our homes. Double glazing, wall and roof insulation are all means to achieve this.
· Composting is a natural process that breaks down organic material and turns it into soil.
· Non-animal based food waste and garden waste can be composted.
· Meat and fish cannot be composted.
· Climate change is a long term change in weather patterns.
· Global warming is an increase in the average temperature of the Earth.
· Human factors that contribute to climate change are; burning fossil fuels, deforestation, dumping waste in landfill, and agriculture.
· Biodiversity is the variety and quantity of organisms in an ecosystem.
· Human factors that damage biodiversity include; Habitat destruction and deforestation, Overfishing, Intensive agriculture, Genetic pollution, Climate change, Acid rain, Oil and chemical spills, Sewage and litter.
· Climate change has an impact on humans, animals and plants. The effects include; displacement and possibly extinction.
· Food miles represent the distance food stuff has travelled before being consumed.
· We can reduce food miles by buying locally, growing our own food, and buying food with less packaging.
· Buying food locally means it is fresher, and uses less energy and less fossil fuels to transport it. It may reduce choice and cosy more however.
· Buying from overseas may mean it is cheaper, and there is greater choice. It will increase the use of fossil fuels for transportation, and some production of food may encourage deforestation.