CELEBRATE WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY!

Geography in action – what are students and schools doing to protect the environment?

There are thousands of young people and schools across the UK who are working hard to make a real difference to their school environment, their local community and the world at large.

At Pearson, we know that what is taught in schools, homes and communities can unlock a world of experiences and opportunities, as well as harness the global citizens of the future.

So, to celebrate World Environment Day 2021, we want to shine a light on just a few of the inspirational young voices and schools who are playing their part in protecting our planet and affecting change beyond the classroom.

Get involved by sharing how your school is protecting the planet

To share upload your photos on Twitter, tag @Edexcel_Geog and use #GenerationRestoration and #WorldEnvironmentDay.
Kabir Kaul, bringing wildlife to London’s doorsteps

Kabir Kaul put his Geography skills to good use when he created an interactive map of nature reserves and designated wildlife sites in London to raise awareness of the urban wildlife on people’s doorsteps, and encourage Londoners to explore the green and blue spaces near them.

With the aim to protect the wildlife in his community, Kabir speaks at events, is a Youth Councillor for the RSPB and is a Director for Conservation for Middlesex Heritage. He has also created a Wildlife Society at his school which is now planning to make a wildlife pond!

Harry Sugden, taking on plastic pollution!

Inspired by Blue Planet II, Harry is passionate about raising awareness and motivating the public to clean up the coastline.

After rolling up his sleeves, litter picking at Clacton beach, where he found many plastic items including bottles, carrier bags, plastic straws, cups and cable ties as well as containers, chocolate bar wrappers, bottles and clothing, Harry became concerned on why people weren’t using the local bins.

Harry decided that his local community needed reminding of the devastating impact of plastic pollution. He created posters featuring images of the damage being caused to wildlife and approached local businesses to help fund the production of the posters.

Finlay Pringle, making waves in climate change

Finlay is also concerned about the level of plastic pollution on our shores.

Finlay has engaged with the UN and politicians to lobby for change on environmental issues, has campaigned to make his village, Ullapool, the first plastic straw free place in the UK and regularly litter picks and cleans his local beaches – in August 2020 he and his family removed 1400kg of plastic in just six days!

He takes the time to speak and give presentations at schools and conferences about the problems affecting the marine environment and its crucial role in helping prevent climate change.
Rebecca Bailey, butterfly girl

Rebecca Bailey became a social media influencer as the ‘Butterfly Girl’ encouraging her 7000 strong followers to protect the butterfly population.

She has and continues to encourage others to create butterfly gardens and plant specific foodplants to support butterfly conservation.

George Spicer Primary School

Year 4 students at George Spicer Primary School have challenged manufacturers to change their ways.

Pupils took matters into their own hands and stood up against unsustainably sourced Palm Oil, with students boycotting products and writing letters to organisations that use it to call for them to make changes to their products.

Jessica Shepherd, an ‘eco-warrior’

“Just as ripples spread out when a single pebble is dropped into water, the actions of individuals can have far-reaching effects.” Dalai Lama

Jessica has become a fundraising ‘Eco Warrior’ who leads a team of ‘Eco Warriors’ at her school to tackle environmental issues. She organised a fundraising event to raise money for bushfire victims in Australia and with the money she raised, the school adopted a koala bear, planted trees and sent money to an animal hospital so that the injured animals could be treated.

At Pearson, we know learning doesn’t end in the classroom. Together we can inspire and empower the next generation of global citizens.

To find out more about Pearson Geography visit: go.pearson.com/future-geographers