

Every journey matters

Lesson 5: What if you were London Mayor?

In this final lesson children will apply the knowledge they have gathered in the previous lessons to design a transport plan for the London 2012 Olympics. Children will be forced to consider practical limitations and will be encouraged to use a variety of presentation mediums.

Resources

Teachers may wish to provide children with print outs from previous lessons as reminders. They may also wish to make available a variety of art materials, magazines, paper and card.

Learning Objectives

- To design a sustainable transport system for the London 2012 Olympics.

Success Criteria

- Children should be able to design a transport system with sustainable elements.
- Children should be able to explain how their plan will be sustainable.

Introduction (10 minutes)

Ask children to imagine that they have just been elected Mayor of London. Their first task is perhaps one of the most difficult tasks that they will ever face. They have to make all the transport for the London 2012 Olympics and Paralympics sustainable. Briefly discuss what the children already know about the Olympics and ask children to comment on what special issues hosting the Olympics may raise (extra visitors, competitors, media etc).

Sustainable Olympics (10 minutes)

Ask the children about their opinions about the Olympics coming to London. Explain that some people are in favour but that others are very against it. Discuss the reasons (taxes, crowds, money for transport, pollution) and explain that children will have to think about those things when designing a transport system. As a class agree on some common aims for your design brief.

- How do you transport athletes from their village to the venues?
- How do you transport spectators from the centre of London to the venues?
- How will you cater for athletes or spectators with disabilities?

You may want to add several more that your class decide on together.

Olympic Presentation (30 minutes)

In pairs / groups children will produce a presentation to explain how they are going to keep transport sustainable during the 2012 Olympics. Children may wish to design a poster, a leaflet or a computer slideshow presentation. They may add in diagrams, pictures, facts. They may design a logo, prepare a speech, use photographs. Give children information from the book as well as work used in previous lessons to help them with their designs.

Plenary (10 minutes)

Introduce each pair / group in turn as the new Mayors of London and restate their brief. Children will share their presentations, using the prompt questions if necessary. Ask other children to comment constructively on what the presenters have done well to achieve the aim of sustainable transport.

Links to National Curriculum

Geography KS2: 1d, 1e, 2a, 2g, 3e, 3f, 4b, 5a, 5b

Possible Further Activities

You may choose to use an event other than the Olympics for the design brief

PHSE: Produce a child friendly School Travel Plan

History: What were the issues at the last London Olympics in 1948?

