

How Green is this Product?

<p>Workshop description: Designers hold the key to sustainable living. In this highly interactive workshop students discuss the whole life-cycle of a product and how the choices made by designers can have wide-reaching consequences for the environment.</p>		
<p>Summary of workshop:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Card matching starter activity. • Presentation on what “sustainability” means. • Life-cycle analysis. • Product comparisons; high vs low impact. 		
<p>Time: 1 hour</p>	<p>Number of students: 12-30</p>	<p>Suitable for years: 10-13</p>
<p>Misconceptions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • That natural products inherently have a low environmental impact. • That the transportation of a product is its main environmental impact. 		
<p>Learning outcomes By the end of the workshop pupils should be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ask a question about a product to find out how sustainable it is. • Explain the different stages of a product’s life-cycle. • Suggest at least one way that a product could be made more sustainable. 		
<p>Vocabulary: Sustainable, unsustainable, life-cycle analysis, carbon footprint</p>		
<p>Resources: Question and picture cards to match up. Projector and laptop or memory stick. Objects to analyse. Life-cycle worksheets. Product comparison flow chart cards and sticky sheet.</p>		
<p>Duration</p> <p>2 mins</p> <p>3 mins</p> <p>8 mins</p> <p>7 mins</p> <p>15 mins</p> <p>5 mins</p> <p>5 mins</p> <p>10 mins</p> <p>5 mins</p>	<p>Teaching and Learning activities:</p> <p>Introduce myself and what we will be doing in this workshop.</p> <p>Students work in groups to match products with relevant questions such as “Is this made of organic cotton?”</p> <p>Go through answers, considering which answer would be preferable and why.</p> <p>Presentation to explain what is meant by the term “sustainability”, using cotton/jeans as an example.</p> <p>Each group looks at a different product and analyses its life-cycle.</p> <p>Group feedback.</p> <p>Show students an example of how a design brief can be met by products with different environmental impacts. Each group produces a flow chart outlining some of the environmental impacts of a product. The flow charts are put up on the wall next to each other.</p> <p>The products are compared to show students how similar products can have either a low or high environmental impact.</p> <p>Summarise what they have learnt.</p>	