

# Key Stage 2 Assembly

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## Footprints

*Year group: Key Stage Two*

*Resources: Picture of planet Earth, pictures of footprints*

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## Assembly plan

### Aims

To encourage a sustainable lifestyle  
To encourage the children to walk at least some of the way to/from school

### Introduction

Start by getting the children to think about footprints we make as we walk along - footprints in the snow, muddy footprints on the kitchen floor, footprints in the sand which are then washed away by the sea.

### Main presentation

Introduce the idea of the Ecological footprint:  
An Ecological footprint is the area of land and water that is needed for a person to sustain their particular standard of living.  
Tell the children that we all make an Ecological footprint (or Global footprint)  
Show a picture of planet Earth or a globe. Ask if they know what the world population is. (Answer six-billion)  
  
Explain that if we share out the area of productive land and sea by the global population of six-billion people then we each have around 2 hectares of land to supply all our needs.  
  
In this country the average Ecological Footprint is 5 hectares.  
In Africa and Asia it is only 1.5 hectares.  
In USA it is 10 hectares.  
  
Are we sharing out the Earth's resources fairly?  
Why do we have an EF of 5 hectares when each person's allocation is actually 2 hectares?

Explain that we use resources because of the way we live, for:

- Food (crops, seafood, meat)
- Shelter (building materials, heating, power, water)
- Goods (materials, packaging)
- Mobility (transport, air travel)

Tell the children that a young person uses half their allowance on travel - journeys by car etc.

Ask whether the children think they could reduce their transport demands  
- Ask for ideas on how they can do this- encourage them to think in particular of their journey to school.

- ✓ Car-share
- ✓ Walk all or part of the journey to school
- ✓ Use public transport whenever possible
- ✓ Cycle

## Summary

Explain that by making small changes to their lifestyles they can help to make big changes to the World.

You could use this as your school motto: 'In this school we don't just talk the talk, we also walk the walk.'

## Reflection

Ask the children to think about the beautiful world we live in and remind them that it is our responsibility to look after the planet.

Think about our daily journeys and think about whether we can use our cars less often. Are there times when we could walk instead of getting a lift?

Think about the friends we meet on our walks and the lovely things we see and hear.

## Notes

'Our biggest challenge in this new century is to take an idea that seems abstract-sustainable development- and turn it into a reality for the World's people.' Kofi Annan UN Secretary General. (April 2000)