

Steps in the right direction¹

1 Trying to 'go green'

- a) Before you read the 'Awesome News' blog: What do you know about your 'carbon footprint'? Explain it to your partner.

Awesome News

Sunday, 6th October, 2010

'Going green'

Have you ever tried to 'go green'? I thought it had something to do with traffic rules until I read a newspaper article about a BBC reporter called Justin Rowlatt. He and his family went green for a year. He, his wife and their three daughters tried to live in a more eco-friendly way for twelve months. Justin knew already that we should all try to protect the environment and reduce our 'carbon footprint', but he wanted to find out what differences an eco-friendly life would bring to an average British family. I think that's great! I'm sure it wasn't easy for him or for his family. So he gets my Awesome News medal this week.

Awesome News

Links

- Econews
- Ecobusinesses

Blog Archive

- ▼ 2009 (20)
 - ▼ October (3)
 - 'Going green'
 - Your carbon footprint eco-friendly
 - ▶ September (6)

About me

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¹direction [di'rekʃn] – Richtung

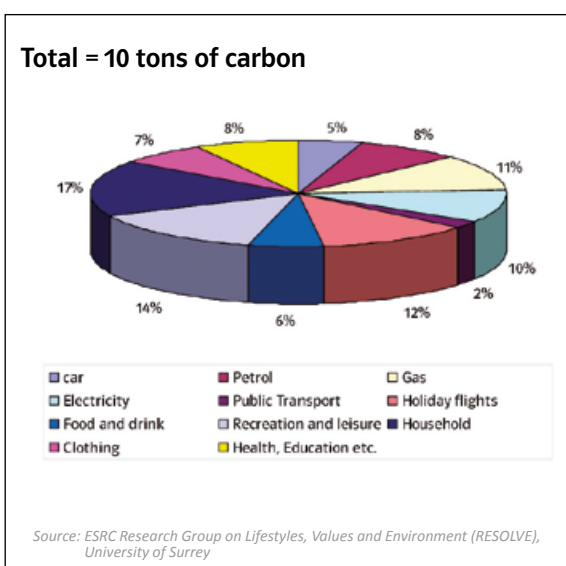
- b) Skim the text. Who gets the Awesome News medal this week? What is his job?
- c) Read the text again. What did Justin and his family try to do and why?
- d) How do you think Justin used his experiences in his job?
- e) Which areas of life add to a person's "carbon footprint"? Look at the picture and start a list.



2 The Rowatts' carbon footprint

- This pie chart¹ shows the carbon footprint of the Rowlatt family before they started to 'go green'. Check the different parts against your list from part e) of Ex 1. Add to your list.
- Look at the pictures (1-4). They all show things which add to your carbon footprint. Match each to a part of the pie chart.
- Try to think of one or two examples of things for the other parts of the chart.
- What could the family do to make each of the parts smaller? Do a survey and find out what other people in your class think.

¹pie chart [ˈpaɪ ˌtʃɑ:t] – Tortengrafik



1



2



3



4



3 Find the opposites

a) Write in a word(s) with the opposite meaning.

- | | |
|-------------------|------------------------|
| 1. outside _____ | 4. to turn on _____ |
| 2. native _____ | 5. throwing away _____ |
| 3. to waste _____ | 6. to open _____ |

b) Now use both of the words from each pair in a sentence about your carbon footprint.

Example: 1. It's silly to play tennis **inside** when you could play **outside** or ...

4 A game for four players: Go green!

- Get into a group of four. You will need 32 small cards and 8 green cards or small objects.
- Look at the six pieces of advice on how to reduce your carbon footprint and think of two more.
- Write each of these 8 pieces of advice four times on different cards. (32 cards)



- Play the game. The aim is to collect green cards or objects.
 - The group sits in a circle. No one is allowed to look at what is on the cards.
 - One person (A) keeps the 8 green cards or objects. She/he puts all the other cards in a pile, face down on the desk.
 - The person on her/his left in the group (B) picks up the cards and mixes them.
 - The person on her/his left (C) takes the cards and gives each person in the group a card until there are no more cards left.
 - Everyone can now look at their own cards and sort them into groups with the same text.
 - The next person (D) starts. If she/he has 2 or 3 cards which are the same she/he must try to collect more of those cards. D gives one card to the person on her/his left (A). This person then has to give a different card to D.
 - If D has four cards which are the same, D puts them down on the desk and says "Go green!" A then asks: "What are you going or not going to do?" D must use the text on her/his four cards to reply. Example: "I'm going to cycle to school." or "I'm not going to buy" D is then given a green card or object. The four cards are put to one side.
 - If D doesn't have four cards which are the same, she/he says, "I'm waiting." The next person on her/his left starts.
 - The game ends when everyone has only green cards or objects.

Lösungen

Lösungsvorschläge Seite 1

Ex. 1

- a) the total amount of greenhouse gases that a person makes
- b) Justin Rowlett – the man who wrote the article – 40 years old – BBC reporter
- c) They wanted to go green.
- d) He wanted to show others that it is possible.
- e) heating, electricity, air travel, food from abroad, plastic bottles, car trips

Lösungsvorschläge Seite 2

Ex. 2

- a) clothing, public transport, recreation and leisure, health, education etc., household
- b) Electricity/Household (1), Food and drink (2), Holiday flights (3), Gas (4)
- c) Clothing (T-shirts from China), Public transport (trains), Health (hospital), Car (seats made of plastic), Education (pens and school bags)
- d) They could turn off the heating sometimes. They could wear clothes made in Britain. They could take holidays near their home. they could eat food from their area. They could use only fresh food.
+ *Individuelle Schülerlösungen*

Lösungsvorschläge Seite 3

Ex. 3

- a) 1. inside, 2. exotic, 3. to save, 4. to turn/switch off, 5. recycling, 6. to close/shut
- b) 2. We shouldn't fly to exotic places on holiday, we should enjoy our native forests. 3. I try to save water and not to waste it. 4. I only turn on the TV when I want to watch something and then I turn it off again, when I go out or go to bed. 5. Throwing away rubbish is easier than recycling it but it doesn't help the environment. 6. Only open the refrigerator door when you need something and shut it again immediately.

Lösungsvorschläge Seite 4

Ex. 4

- b) Turn off the lights when you go out!
Don't use plastic bags for shopping!
Buy eggs from your area!
Don't fill the bathtub, take a shower instead!