

How can our choices and actions contribute to a healthier planet?

Vocabulary

Sustainability – the idea that humans must interact with the environment in a way that ensures there will be enough resources left for future generations.

Renewable Energy - is made from resources that nature will replace, like wind, water and sunshine. **Renewable energy** is also called "clean energy" or "green power" because it doesn't pollute the air or the water.

Non-renewable Energy – natural resources that cannot be replaced after they are used. This means that they exist in a fixed amount on Earth. Rock, minerals, metals, uranium, and fossil fuels such as petroleum, coal, and natural gas are all **non-renewable resources**.

Interdependence - how living and non-living things depend on one another.

Thrive – grow or develop well.

Economy - a system of making and trading things of value. It is usually divided into goods (physical things) and services (things done by people).

Responsibility - you do the things you are supposed to do and accept the results of your actions.

Biodiversity - the variety of life. It is seen in the number of species in an ecosystem or on the entire Earth.

Global warming – the rising of the average temperature on Earth.

Carbon Footprint - how much carbon goes into the air because of something done by people (not by nature). Doing something that burns fuel will make carbon dioxide gas in the smoke. Carbon dioxide has carbon in it.

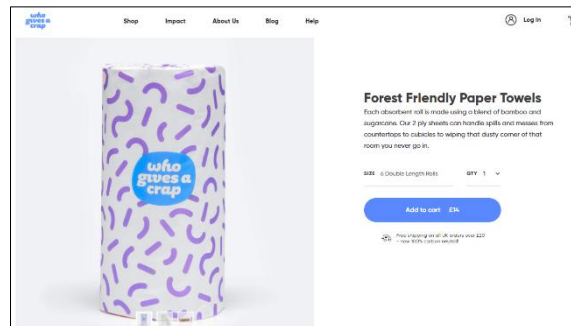
Ethical – what is thought to be good for individuals, society and the world.

Eco-systems – a community of interacting organisms and their environment. Living things interact with each other and also with non-living things like soil, water and air. **Ecosystems** often contain many living things and can be as small as your backyard or as large as the ocean.

Sustainability is ensuring that the planet and all of its resources continue to provide a home for the human, animals and plants that live here. It is our job to take care of the plants to ensure that future generations of people and animals can live and thrive on Earth.

Problems arise when we don't look after the resources we have and will increasingly arise if we fail to ensure there are enough resources for future generations.

It is our job to make informed choice about the products we use and where they come from. Being a sustainable society means we need to make smart choices about the products we use, the lifestyles we live and how we can preserve non-renewable resources for generations to come.



Sustainability in design and technology

Sustainability impacts on the design of products, services and environments. People involved in design and technologies occupations need to ensure that their inventions not only meet the communities' needs now but also in the future.

Sustainability plays a big part in the design process, from where materials are sourced to how durable and long-lasting they are.

Greta Thunberg

Greta Thunberg is a Swedish activist who works to address the problem of **climate change**. She is the founder of a movement known as Fridays for Future. It is also known as School Strike for Climate. Thunberg began the movement in August 2018 when she missed school to sit outside the Swedish parliament with a sign that read (in Swedish) "School Strike for the Climate." Just over a year later, in September 2019, millions of protesters marched in climate strikes in more than 163 countries. The protests were held on all seven continents.



"Young people are the future of our planet. We must equip them with the information, insight and practical skills to understand the importance of biodiversity – both intrinsically and for the survival of humanity. Educators have a key role to play in preparing young people for the challenges that lie ahead. There can be no greater legacy than giving young people the tools they need to save our planet."

Sir David Attenborough.