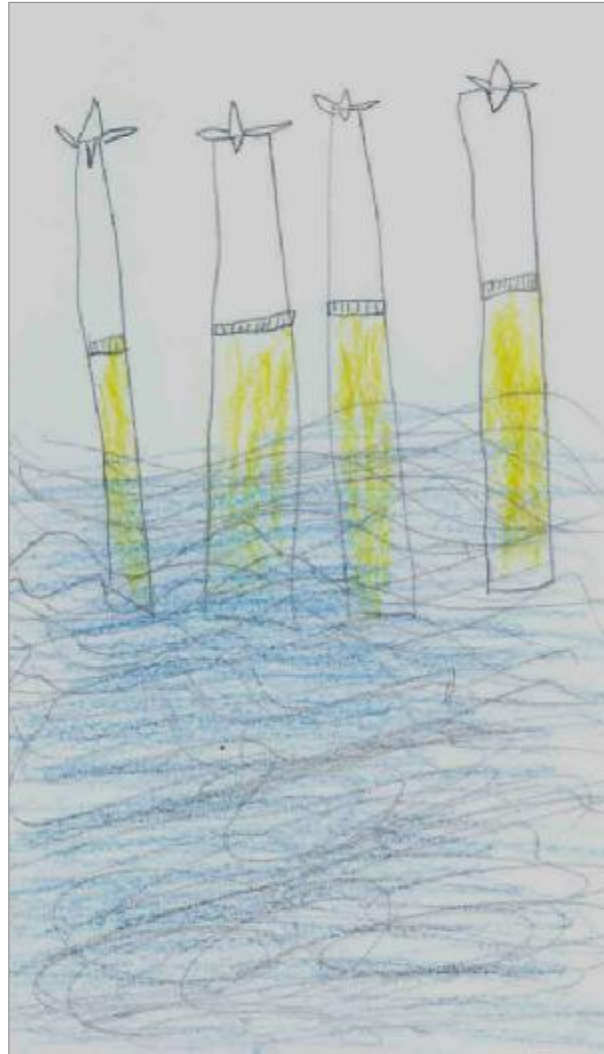


CREATE



CASE STUDY

The Answer that's blowing in the Wind

Working with wind farm developers to raise public awareness of climate change and sustainable energy



Working with wind farm developers United Utilities and National Wind Power, CREATE designed and delivered a programme of classroom activities on climate change, energy efficiency and renewable energy to young people aged 5 to 16 years in North Wales, South Yorkshire and Lancashire.

Schools were offered a menu of options to choose from for their class based activity. These included:

Drama Presentations

Students began the session with a discussion about climate change which led to the production of a news report on the local environment and how this could be affected by climate change.

Art Exhibition

Students researched websites for current examples of the effects of climate change, recorded their findings on a world map and prepared an art exhibition using different media e.g. photography, collage, Power Point presentation etc to show the effects of climate change around the world.

Work with the School Council

School council members as global detectives were given the task of keeping an eye out on ways everyone around the school were polluting the environment. They were encouraged to feedback information and discuss actions for improvement in a whole school assembly.

School Energy Audits

Pupils carried out an energy survey of the school and identified areas of heat loss and energy wastage around the school.

Design of Energy Efficient Homes

Pupils were shown various insulation materials and discussed how these could be used to keep heat in the home. They designed and made 3-D energy efficient homes using waste materials.





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Neighbourhood Energy Trail

Pupils carried out an energy trail of the neighbourhood to assess energy efficiency in the local community. They identified and recorded different roof and window materials, double glazing and secondary glazing, draught-proofing, low energy lamps and draught-lobbies.

Renewable v Non-Renewable Energy Debate

Students set up a mini Parliament to research and debate the pros and cons for renewable energy sources.

Community Action Research

Students interviewed members of the community to find out the motivators for the purchase of green energy; i.e. electricity produced from a renewable energy source. They used their findings to produce an advert to “sell” the message.

Wind Testing Experiments

Pupils designed wind testing equipment and carried out experiments in order to build a wind map of the school. They

discussed why the use of renewables is important.

Comparing Energy Sources

Pupils were involved in a practical session discussing what life would be like without electricity and considered the main types of renewable energy sources in relation to whether they would be suitable for their own area and environment.

Considering Solar Energy

In this session, pupils identified the sunniest sides of the school by measuring temperatures in north and south facing rooms and discussed the role of solar energy as an energy source.

Making Kites

Children made kites and used them to test the power of the wind in areas around the school grounds.

Delivery of an Assembly

CREATE delivered an interactive assembly presented to the whole school that referred to the three topics; climate change, energy efficiency and renewable energy.



This partnership between CREATE and wind farm developers is designed to help young people understand the impact of climate change and the contribution renewable energy generation and energy efficiency can make in combating it. Most importantly, the programme helps them to understand how they can 'do their bit' to help secure a sustainable future by being energy efficient both at home and in their school.

To date the programme has been delivered to over 700 pupils attending schools in vicinity of the North Hoyle offshore wind farm and the proposed development on Scout Moor, Lancashire and in Thorne near Doncaster.

Participants' comments:

John Furneaux, Science and Technology teacher at Ysgol y Castell:

"One of the most important parts of a child's education is to make them aware of their responsibility for looking after others and looking after their environment. This is all very difficult for them to really understand, but visits and activities like this all help to form ideas which we hope will make them consider their thoughts and actions when they are older."

Adrian Emmanuel National Wind Power's operations manager at North Hoyle:

"NWP is keen to continue building good links with the communities of Rhyl and Prestatyn and we are pleased that this schools' initiative has been received with such enthusiasm by both the pupils and teachers involved. It is important for everyone to understand that renewable energy and energy efficiency go hand in hand in the fight against climate change."

Jackie O'Reilly, Education Centre Manager from United Utilities:

"CREATE's differentiated activities were entertaining, stimulating and encouraged the children to think about the issues affecting their present and future environment. The children put their thoughts into some excellent post visit work where they confirmed how much they had enjoyed the day CREATE came into their school. This was reinforced by positive evaluations from the teachers."

For further information about this project contact sandy@create.org.uk



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