

How to use the Ashden educational resources

What are the Ashden educational resources?

They are free educational materials that use the excellent range of five-minute Ashden films as a stimulus and support for primary-level pupils' understanding of energy related issues. Ashden Award winners are individuals and organisations who have taken action to use energy more sustainably – they are people who are **making a difference**.

The materials provide a range of detailed activities for teachers and ideas for further activities which develop understanding about energy use, climate change and quality of life. In addition, on the School Action page, there is relevant information for governors and senior management of schools.

What materials are used to support the activities?

On the Activity Page there are links to enable you to access the films and additional support materials.

- Powerpoint presentations suitable for use as a whole class introduction, with discussion points, diagrams and questions. These include some activity frameworks for class discussion and printable versions for pupils to use.
- Teacher notes with background information for teachers, key learning objectives and suggestions for using the Powerpoint, activity frames and films. In addition, there is a list of possible follow up activities for future lessons, with curricular links.
- Suggestions for suitable five-minute Ashden films, which detail work on sustainable energy in Award-winning UK schools and within a wide range of overseas communities. Once you begin to explore the films you may well wish to make your own links.

Is there a set order for the activities?

The diagram at the end of this document shows a suggested sequence of activities which builds on a progression of understanding. However, you do not have to follow this sequence. Each of the titles is designed to work as a stand-alone activity and guidance on prior knowledge is given in the Teacher notes.

What curricular areas are covered?

These activities involve a range of curricular subjects, active citizenship and Education for Sustainable Development (ESD). Curricular areas for the main activities are shown on the Activity Page and the Teacher notes contain ideas for extending learning in other areas. You may have ideas for further curriculum coverage.

What age group are the resources intended for?

The materials are designed for use at Key Stage One (age approximately 5 to 7 years) and Key Stage Two (7 to 11 years) of the school system in England. Guidance for recommended age groups is given on the Activity Page. Some of the Key Stage Two materials are also suitable for Key Stage Three.

Can the materials be personalised?

Yes. The Powerpoint presentations and activity support frames can be adapted if wished to make them more relevant for your own school and pupils.

Can the films be used by themselves?

The films are an excellent stand-alone resource and can be accessed directly from the Film resource page. This also gives a brief overview of the content of each film, and provides a range of prompt questions and quick activities. If you want to know more about the material in any film, there are detailed technical reports about all Ashden Award winners available on the main website: www.ashdenawards.org/winners.

Suggested activity sequence

Making a difference: in my thinking



What is energy?

Making choices

Being energy wise

What is global warming?

Making a difference: my school & community



I want to be in the Energy Team

Thinking about electricity

Making an action plan for change

Energising the community

Making a difference: the global dimension

Investigating energy technologies

Problems or solution?

Thinking about quality of life