Energy & Climate Education in Schools

West Wales Eco Centre

INFORSE-EUROPE
International Network for Sustainable Energy - Europe

The route to education for sustainable development (ESD)

- Stockholm conference - 1972
- Our Common Future – 1987
- Rio 1992
- Johannesburg 2002
- UN decade of ESD, 2005 – 2014

Realities

- Is education leading us to sustainability?
- Reproducing an unsustainable world
- Need to change education system and practice

- Over 70% of UK households never examined ways to save energy (EST)
- The amount of energy we use for transport and in our homes has increased dramatically since 1980, from 18% to 35% and 40% to 49% respectively (Environment Agency)
- 13% of Brits surveyed left the television on standby for the duration of their holiday, costing a collective £250,000 in wasted energy. (EST)
For every £1 saved on fuel bills, energy consumption is reduced by about 34kWh and CO\textsubscript{2} emissions by around 8.5 kgs of CO\textsubscript{2}.

Energy Efficiency Partnership for Homes - important influence of verbal advice

Key concepts of ESD

- Interdependence
- Citizenship and stewardship
- Needs and rights of future generations
- Diversity
- Quality of life
- Sustainable change
- Uncertainty and precaution

Energy use has an impact on all the key concepts

Participants for 2004 pilot included:

- Polish Ecological Club Upper Silesian Branch (teacher training)
- Norges Naturvernforbund /SPARE project, Norway
- MEERA, Malta
- Prietnii Pamantului (Earth Friends), Romania
- OVE, Organisation for Renewable Energy, Denmark
- West Wales ECO Centre

Aim of the project

- To collate a central resource of environmental educational material on climate and energy.
- To exchange experience and environmental education resources, addressing the cross-cultural barriers of doing this.
- To further develop relevant environmental education material for use in different school systems, budgets and curricula.
Changes for 2005

- game - internet or board
- study material/theory
- practical experiments (e.g. make a wind turbine)
- project/activity (successes in school)

Education and energy, UK

- The Centre for Research, Education and Training in Energy (CREATE)
- Centre for Sustainable Energy
- Centre for Alternative Technology
- Alternative Technology Centre
- The National Energy Foundation
Towards a sustainable society

- Education not just about knowledge
- Values and attitudes (self and society)
- Visible in (school) culture

Education workshop

Aim to identify:
- Effective ways to engage people in environmental issues
- Effective ways to get messages to decision makers and practitioners
- Innovative examples of best practice across Europe