Nature and the environment ESL lesson plan (A2)

A2 (elementary) · 60 minutes · for English teachers · englishcue.app

Stage	Time
Warm-up	5–10 min
Vocabulary	15 min
Controlled practice	10 min
Grammar focus	10 min
Speaking	15 min
Wrap-up and homework	5 min

1. Warm-up (5–10 min)

- Do you recycle at home?
- How do you travel to work?
- Is your city clean?

2. Vocabulary (15 min)

Elicit each word before you give it, model the pronunciation, then check meaning with a quick question.

Word	Meaning	Example
environment	the natural world of land, sea, air, plants and animals	We must protect the environment.
pollution	damage to air, water or land from harmful things	Air pollution is a big problem in cities.
recycle	to treat used things so they can be used again	We recycle paper, glass and plastic.
plastic	a light material made from chemicals	There's too much plastic in the sea.
waste	things that are not wanted or used	Food waste is a huge problem.
energy	power from electricity, gas or the sun	Turn off the lights to save energy.
save	to use less of something	Take shorter showers to save water.
protect	to keep something safe from harm	Laws protect these birds.
planet	a large round object in space, like the Earth	We only have one planet.
climate	the usual weather in a place over a long time	The climate is changing.

Grammar focus (10 min): Passive: present and past simple

A group visits the Brightwell chocolate factory. The guide says: “This factory was built in 1890. Today, more than a million bars are made here every week. The cocoa beans are grown in Ghana.” By the end of this lesson you can describe processes and history with the passive.

Form	Pattern	Example
Present	am / is / are + participle	Chocolate is made from cocoa.
Past	was / were + participle	The factory was built in 1890.
By	by + who did it	It was painted by Picasso.
Why?	the thing is the topic	My bike was stolen.

Watch for: ~~The castle built in 1300.~~ → **The castle was built in 1300.**. Passive needs be.

Speaking (15 min): The town meeting

The town has money for one project: a bike lane network, a new park or cheaper public transport. The learner chooses one, gives three arguments and answers your objections as a citizen who disagrees.

Useful language

- to recycle · to waste · to reduce · to ban
- We should… / We ought to… / We’d better…
- In my view… / As far as I can see…
- It’s harmful to… / It’s good for…
- pollution · rubbish · a drought · renewable energy
- I see your point, but…

Wrap-up and homework (5 min)

- Each learner says the three new words they will remember, and one sentence with each.
- Homework: write 80–120 words about nature and the environment using at least six words from the lesson and the grammar point.
- Self-study: the A2 nature and the environment vocabulary page on englishcue.app has a self-correcting quiz with all 22 words.

Nature and the environment (A2)

Student handout · Name: _____ · Date: _____

A. Word bank

reuse · Turn off · solar panels · bin · wildlife · public transport · throw away · bottle

B. Complete the sentences

Use a word from the word bank. Then compare with a partner.

1. We _____ shopping bags.
2. I always carry a water _____.
3. Put the bottles in the green _____.
4. Don't _____ that box. I can use it.
5. The park is full of _____.
6. We put _____ on our roof.
7. _____ the tap while you brush your teeth.
8. I use _____ to get to work.

C. Talk with a partner

Ask and answer. Make notes of one interesting answer to report to the class.

1. Do you use plastic bags?
2. What do you do to save water or energy?
3. Are there parks near your home?
4. Do you like being in nature?
5. Is the air good where you live?

Write

Write 80–120 words about nature and the environment. Use six words from the lesson.

Answer key

B. Complete the sentences: 1 reuse · 2 bottle · 3 bin · 4 throw away · 5 wildlife · 6 solar panels · 7 Turn off · 8 public transport