



Landfill

It is estimated that £140 million worth of used clothing goes to landfill each year in the UK, and it can take hundreds of years for the clothing to decompose.

But it isn't only clothing that has been thrown away that ends up in landfill sites, clothing that is returned to shops, and those donated to charity stores often make their way to landfill sites, even when it isn't damaged!

Landfill is the disposal of waste by burying it. Whilst this method of disposal is quick, there are also many disadvantages to the process including; air, water and soil pollution, pungent odours and health implications. It is estimated that there is only 8 years worth of landfill space left in the UK.

Landfill Sites in Wales



This is a link to a map of Wales from 'Natural Resources Wales' with details of all of the waste management sites in Wales.

TASK—What are the types of waste management facilities? How many are there in your county?

Challenge: What type of air pollution do they emit and what are the problems linked with these gases?

Investigate: Choose one of the landfill sites near you. Why do you think this area has been chosen as a site?

It may be useful to think of the type of land involved, the location, the waterways near-by, and accessibility. National Resources Wales may be a useful site to visit to help with this task.

Create a factsheet about the landfill site that you have chosen.

Waste Management in Wales

This is the data for Wales (in tonnes).



TASK—Calculate the percentage that has not been reused/recycled/composted over the past 5 years and the waste that has been taken as landfill. What are the main messages from this?

This is the data for each county in North Wales.

Gwynedd



Anglesey



Conwy



Denbighshire



Wrexham



Flintshire



TASK—Can you calculate the percentages for the county that you live in. How does your county compare with the figures for Wales?

Challenge: What are the alternatives to landfill? And how could we dispose of clothing in a more environmentally friendly way? Find out about what happens to unwanted clothing that ends up at your local charity store or clothing bank, where does it go?

TASK—Create an infographic summarising this information.

[Click here to access a guide on how to use Adobe Spark](#)



Camouflage



The fashion industry draws inspiration from the natural world, choosing fabrics and clothes that stand out.

Animals cannot choose their colour, pattern, or shape. These are physical adaptations. Many animals have physical adaptations that serve as a disguise. They can hide out in the open because they blend into their environment. The adaptation that allows some animals to blend into their surroundings is camouflage.

TASK—Find out about some unusual animals that use camouflage as defence. Use this research to design a new fabric pattern drawing your inspiration from the natural world. How would it look as a track suit?

[Click here to try out your design](#)



<https://www.nationalgeographic.com/animals/reference/camouflage-explained/#/red-fox-camouflage.jpg>



What is the cost of fashion?

Planet Earth is like no other, breath taking landscapes exploding with colour, home to over 8 million different species of plants and animals. This planet sustains us and every creature that we share it with, but more than that it inspires us. Exquisite species overload our senses with their vibrant shades, patterns and textures.

Up to now many of us have taken it for granted, but it is not too late to protect the source of our creativity. This planet is suffocating, because of our increasing desire for fast fashion, and most of the industry supports this, making it one of the world's biggest polluters. Our hunger for fast fashion is pushing species to the brink of extinction, destroying the habitats that provide us with clean air and polluting the rivers that give us fresh water.

Each year a hundred billion items of clothing are produced globally, using thousands of different chemicals. Yet 3 out of 5 items end up in landfill within 12 months.

We all need a healthy planet, not only to survive, but also to inspire the creativity that drives fashion and design. And there is hope, nature's power of regeneration is remarkable. The choice lies with us every time we invest in an item of clothing. We can consider every purchase and love our choices, we can buy quality and can consume less, we can recycle and repurpose. Together we can change our attitude towards fast fashion, by choosing sustainable, clean and considered fashion.



The History of Fashion

Fashion and trends are constantly changing.

TASK— Find out about the clothing trends from one of the following time periods—1960s, 1970s or 1980s.

Compare and contrast the trends with those of the present day. Does the time period influence the clothes you wear today?

TASK—For the decade chosen, find out how much a specific item of clothing cost (e.g. pair of trainers, winter coat, track suit) and what proportion/percentage of the average monthly salary in the UK this would have been at the time. Compare this to the costs today identifying in which time period clothes were the most expensive.

Some useful links to help with the maths skills can be found here:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zf6pyrd/articles/zqnhdxs>

Pause for thought—Has the relative cost influenced fast fashion?

Fast fashion



The environmental impact of the fashion industry on the environment is often something that goes unnoticed.

TASK 1—Read the article attached which explores this issue in more depth and answer the questions to check your understanding. The 'Challenge Yourself' activity will help deepen your knowledge and understanding.



[Click to view the article](#)

TASK 2- Read the 'Concept Cartoon' attached. With a family member or friend, discuss each of the viewpoints. Which one do you agree with the most? Which viewpoint do you disagree with? What is your overall opinion on the issue of fast fashion?

[Click to view the concept cartoon](#)



The Human Cost



Serious concerns have been raised about the exploitive nature of the fashion industry on workers especially those in less developed countries.

TASK—Read the newspaper report "Death by Fashion" and complete the suggested reading activities. There are 3 activities in total and the tasks build up in difficulty.



[Click to view the report](#)

How to help your child



In order to help your child develop their ability to learn we need to promote curiosity, creative and critical thinking.

Here are some strategies for you to try as you support your child's learning.

Developing Noticing

In order to develop noticing, encourage your child to really notice the detail by asking questions such as

- What can you see?
- What might that mean?
- Why do you think that is?



Sustainability

"meeting the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs."

The Rs of sustainability

- Refuse
- Reuse
- Recycle
- Repair
- Reduce
- Repurpose

TASK—can you give examples for each of the Rs of how you have/could support sustainability with the choices you make regarding the clothes that you wear?



How much does it cost to make a £5 t-shirt?

A high proportion of clothing sold in the UK is produced in developing countries. The costs involved include; Material costs £0.40, Labour costs £0.95, Shipping costs £0.06, Costs including; road transport shop rent, sales staff, marketing and administration £2.00.

TASK – The £5 price tag includes VAT at 20%. Can you calculate the amount of VAT paid when buying this t-shirt? Can you calculate the profit made by the company?

BBC Bitesize – finding out percentage of an amount. <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zf6pyrd/articles/zqnhdxs>

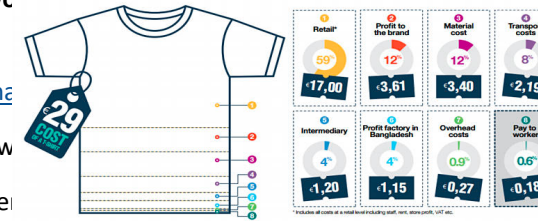
TASK—Use this information to create a pie chart of the costs invc t-shirt.

Mr Barton Maths – how to create a pie chart. <http://mrbartonm>

Challenge: This diagram shows the cost of producing a different w Using the exchange rate of £1:US\$ 1.22 can you compare the diffe the t-shirt sold in the USA?

BBC Bitesize—how to convert units <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/guides/zj2g87h/revision/1>

Breakdown of costs of a shirt



Start a New Trend



Recently thousands of people queued outside shops during the early hours for the release of Kayne West's Yeezy Boost trainers. Click here to watch the advert:

<https://youtu.be/ruYWz8L2lcQ>

TASK—Design your own new brand of footwear. Annotate your design with features such as product material; special features and price.

Fashion show



TASK—Create your own fashion show

Rummage through your wardrobe and, with permission, your parents' or siblings' wardrobes to create a fashion show. You can mix items, colours, create new trends The aim is to show you can do a lot with the clothes you have.

Why not film your show and provide a commentary for what is being shown.



La mode écologique



Eco-friendly fashion

Many fashion designers and trading companies are starting to make changes to the clothes/ fashion industry to reduce the negative impact on the environment.

TASK— Follow the link and look at this website about a sustainable and eco-friendly on-line clothes shop. and then complete the worksheet.

<https://www.modetic.com/>

[Click here to open the worksheet](#)



What should we do/not do?

TASK—Practice and learn the vocab on eco-friendly fashion on Quizlet, and then complete the tasks on the worksheet

https://quizlet.com/_8ed2h9?x=1qq&i=1dbyib

[Click here to open the worksheet](#)



Can fashion ever be sustainable?

Use the knowledge and understanding that you have gained during this project to produce a detailed answer to the question.

You should consider:

- The impact of the fashion industry on the environment and on society (the people involved in manufacturing clothing)
- What you can do to make a difference/create a list of new habits that you will try to embrace as a result of your discover around the cost of fashion.
- How you inspire others to think differently about their lifestyle

Choose a suitable way of displaying your information. This could be through a video, presentation, report, sway, adobe spark etc.



Could you go a year without buying NEW clothes?

We often buy clothing because we want it rather than need it!

TASK—is this true for you? Do you buy what you want rather than what you need? Could you make changes that reduce your impact on the world?

Challenge: Here are some articles that you may find interesting.



How to help your child



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Here are some strategies for you to try as you support your child's learning.

Developing Listening

Learning needs to be a social event where we have a conversation about our ideas and listen to other people's ideas in order to identify ways of moving forward and improving our ideas. In order to do this ask your child to explain their ideas, the reasoning behind them, their methods using questions such as 'What do you mean by.....', 'How would that work?' and 'Why would you do it that way?'.

Encourage your child to listen to the ideas of others (including yours!) n order to improve on their own. This is a very important life and employability skill.