

Sustainability in Our School

Assembly Script



Are you excited to be leading an assembly to the rest of the school? You have a really important job to do! You will be helping everyone in school understand what sustainability means and how important it is to respect nature and care for the environment. You'll also be sharing information about what your school already does to care for the environment and what plans the Eco Council has to improve sustainability in your school. You'll also be telling everyone how they can get involved and work as a team to support your sustainability action plan.

This script will help you present the assembly to the school. You can decide who will read out each part. You might like to each have a copy of the script and highlight the parts that you will say.

Print this script out on certified paper that comes from sustainably managed forests. Look for the FSC® or PEFC symbol to check.

Important – Some slides in the presentation will need you to change, remove or add information on them before the assembly.

- You will need to check if the information on slide 13 applies to your school.
- You will need to add some information and images to slide 15 about what the Eco Council plans to do to improve sustainability in your school.

Slide 1	<p>Display this title slide as everyone comes into the assembly.</p> <p><i>Welcome to our assembly about working as a team to make our school a more sustainable place. When we say 'sustainable', we mean being more respectful and caring towards nature and using our planet's resources carefully.</i></p>
Slide 2	<p><i>Let's start our assembly with a quiz.</i></p> <p><i>True or False: Paper can be recycled up to seven times.</i></p> <p><i>Put up your hand if you think it is true. Now, raise your hand if you think it is false.</i></p> <p>Reveal the answer and read the notes on the slide.</p>
Slide 3	<p><i>Which of the following is NOT an environmentally responsible choice?</i></p> <p><i>a) Using a reusable water bottle</i> <i>b) Recycling paper and card after you've used it</i> <i>c) Leaving a tap running while brushing your teeth</i></p> <p>Reveal the answer.</p>
Slide 4	<p><i>Can you name three sources of renewable energy?</i></p> <p>Ask some children to share one of their ideas. Make sure everyone hears each idea. Reveal the three sources and read the notes on the slide.</p>

Slide 5	<p><i>Yes or no... Do forests help keep the air clean?</i></p> <p><i>Put up your hand for yes. Now, raise your hand for no.</i></p> <p>Reveal the answer and notes on the slide.</p>
Slide 6	<p><i>Which of these items cannot be recycled?</i></p> <p><i>Glass, Tin cans, Paper, Pens and pencils</i></p> <p>Reveal the answer.</p>
Slide 7	<p><i>Today we're talking about something super important—sustainability! Do you know what that means?</i></p> <p><i>It's about making sure that we look after the Earth and all the wonderful things that grow here, like trees, animals, and plants.</i></p> <p><i>Sustainability means using things like water and energy carefully, so we don't run out of them and we have enough resources for the future.</i></p> <p><i>We've got a big job to do! Our school can be more sustainable and environmentally responsible, and we can all help!</i></p> <p><i>The Eco Council is here to make sure that we all work together to use resources that have been responsibly sourced, save energy and water, and take care of our natural surroundings.</i></p> <p><i>Did you know that there are lots of little things we can do that can make a HUGE difference? That's why we, the Eco Council, are leading the way to make our school a more sustainable school</i></p>
Slide 8	<p><i>It can be tricky to understand what sustainability means. A great way to understand it is by learning about sustainably managed forests.</i></p> <p><i>Earlier, we learned that forests help keep our air and water clean, help regulate Earth's temperatures and weather, and that they provide habitats for plants and animals.</i></p>
Slide 9	<p><i>Sustainable forestry means caring for the forest and using the forest responsibly.</i></p> <p><i>That means looking after the soil, the trees and other plants, and the animals.</i></p> <p><i>Protecting forest habitats keeps the forest ecosystems healthy. That helps to preserve biodiversity, which means a wide range of plants and animals can survive and thrive.</i></p>
Slide 10	<p><i>The trees in these special forests are used to make resources like paper.</i></p> <p><i>Sustainable forestry means making sure more trees are planted than are harvested. So, the forests get bigger, not smaller.</i></p> <p><i>It means we'll never run out of the trees we need. Also, buying products that support these forests means we are helping to make a real difference.</i></p> <p><i>So, sustainability means caring for the environment. It means using the resources the planet provides us with carefully, so we don't waste them. It also means making sure we do things in a way that we can keep doing in the future that won't harm the planet.</i></p>

<p>Slide 11</p>	<p><i>There are lots of small everyday actions that we can all do to help care for our planet, such as:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Turn off lights and devices when not in use.</i> • <i>Reduce waste – only take or use what we need.</i> • <i>Reduce the amount of single-use plastic we buy.</i> • <i>Reuse and recycle items when possible.</i> • <i>Turn taps off after use and when brushing our teeth.</i> • <i>Walk, share cars with others or use buses or trains.</i> • <i>Using paper made from sustainable forests.</i> <p><i>Can you think of any other things we can do to care for the environment?</i></p>
<p>Slide 12</p>	<p><i>Put up your hand if you think our school already does things to care for the environment.</i></p> <p><i>Keep your hand up if you can name something we do at our school to look after nature and the world around us.</i></p> <p>Choose some children to share ideas of things they think your school already does to care for the environment.</p>
<p>Slide 13</p>	<p>This slide needs to be checked and changed ahead of the assembly, so that the information is about your school.</p> <p>Share all the information on the slide about what your school already does to care for the environment, such as recycling paper and card, turning off computers after use, or growing vegetables. Some of these things may have already been mentioned by children on the previous slide.</p> <p>If you have carried out your eco audit, you can tell the school what you found out.</p>
<p>Slide 14</p>	<p><i>There are some things that the adults in the school do to care for the environment, like choosing what we buy and where from.</i></p> <p><i>But there are also things that everyone can do at school to help care for the planet, such as:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Turn off lights when we leave the classroom.</i> • <i>Turn off the tap after washing our hands and report leaky taps.</i> • <i>Recycle paper and card.</i> • <i>Walk, scoot or cycle to school when possible.</i> • <i>Use a reusable water bottle.</i> • <i>Take care of plants.</i> • <i>Turn off computers after use.</i> • <i>Put litter in the bin to protect wildlife.</i> • <i>Close windows and doors when the heating is on.</i>
<p>Slide 15</p>	<p>Ahead of the assembly, add ideas to this slide to show how you would like to improve sustainability in your school. You can use your Eco Action Plan to share discussions and decisions that members of the Eco Council have taken.</p> <p><i>Our role as Eco Council members is to improve sustainability in our school.</i></p> <p><i>We are thinking of some ideas and projects to do this.</i></p> <p><i>Tell everyone what to look out for around school or how they can help.</i></p>

Slide 16	<p><i>When lots of us work together, we can help each other and make things better, just like these animals do:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><i>• Ants build nests together and work as a team to carry food back to the nest.</i><i>• Penguins huddle together to protect their eggs from the cold.</i><i>• Bees work together to collect pollen from flowers and take it back to the hive to make honey.</i><i>• Meerkats stand together for protection and take turns to look out for danger.</i><i>• Dolphins swim in a formation and work together to find fish to eat.</i><i>• Geese fly in large groups, in a V-formation, taking turns to be at the front because that requires the most energy.</i> <p><i>To improve sustainability in our school, everyone needs to help!</i></p>
Slide 17	<p><i>Something everyone can do is tell others about sustainability and things we can all do to help care for the world around us.</i></p> <p><i>You might like to tell your family about things we're doing at school to be more environmentally responsible.</i></p> <p><i>If you have any ideas you'd like to share, please speak to one of the Eco Council team.</i></p> <p>Remind everyone of who you are and which classes you are in. You might also tell everyone about when and where you meet.</p>
Slide 18	<p><i>Thank you, everyone, for taking part in our assembly about sustainability in our school.</i></p> <p><i>We'd like to end with this quote from Sir David Attenborough, a British broadcaster and biologist:</i> <i>"This is not about saving our planet, it's about saving ourselves. If we take care of Nature, Nature will take care of us."</i></p>