## BETHE WAVE ARFRIGYDON

# Stop The Block

Lesson Plan











**Welsh Government** 



#### Aims

- Clear understanding of how sewage systems work and how they contribute to polluting our rivers and oceans
- Raise awareness of issues concerning marine litter and pollution and to encourage students to act constructively to make a real difference

#### Objectives

- Explain the difference between a combined and a separate sewage system, the journey of sewage through these and the environmental impact.
- Identify what should not be flushed down the toilet and the reasons why
- Take action to solve these problems and change people's behaviour
- Apply knowledge of marine litter sources to everyday life through #BeTheWave actions and Eco-Schools programme

Eco-Schools topic	Global Goals	
Water	<ul> <li>6 Clean water and sanitation</li> </ul>	
Litter	<ul> <li>12 - Responsible Consumption</li> </ul>	
Waste Minimisation	• 14 – Life Below Water	

#### Purpose

Ambitious, capable learners who:

- Undertake research and critically evaluate what they find
- Build a body of knowledge

#### Ethical, informed citizens who:

- Engage in contemporary issues, understand, and consider their actions when making choices and acting
- Show their commitment to the sustainability of the planet.

#### Enterprising, creative contributors who:

• Connect and apply their knowledge and skills to create ideas and products

#### Humanities

- Have an understanding of own and others environmental, economic and social responsibilities in creating a sustainable future Science and Technology
- Explain how the impact of our actions contribute to the changes in the environment and biodiversity.

#### Science and Technology

- Observe and describe ways in which materials change when they are mixed together.
- Recognise that what I do, and the things I use, can have an impact on my environment and on living things

#### DCF Progression Step 3/4

- Use a variety of software, tools and techniques to create a professional, individual or collaborative project outcome incorporating a range of multimedia components
- Ensure my output is appropriate for specific purposes.







#### LNF Progression Step 4

- Share, talk and write about my thoughts, feelings and opinions showing empathy and respect.
- Present my work appropriately in digital contexts using appropriate digital conventions

#### Cynefin

All videos included are made by Welsh Water

Images of the fatbergs and the environmental floods are all in Wales

Panorama video features a Welsh based segment

Pupils are asked to consider drains provision in their community and investigate what information is provided in their own communities

Activity 1	Resources and Equipment
Sewage & Drains	
Show the Combined Sewage System graphic. Ask the class to study	
the image and explain what they can see/what do they think is	Stop the Block
happening. Go through and explain the graphic (use the Background	presentation
Information notes if needed). Explain that until around 20 years	
ago, all houses in Wales have a combined sewage systems - ask them to consider what sewage system is in their house.	Background Information notes
them to consider what sewage system is in their house.	Hotes
Also, explain what the purpose of a storm drain is and that they go	
straight to the Ocean. Ask them to consider how litter impacts here.	
Got thought the various facts contributing to this problem	
Increased/heavy rainfall	
Litter entering storm drains	
Unsuitable items being flushed	
Show the Separate Sewage System graphic. Again, ask the class to	
study the image and explain what they can see/what do they think is	NB: All images in the Stop
happening.	The Block Presentation
Show the graphic of both Sewage Systems. Ask the class to explain	
which is the best system. Explain that although the Separate System	
solves the initial sanitary problem, there is still the huge issue of the	Card
storm drains and litter (show image of storm drain and litter).	Pencils
Discuss where you find storm drains – around the school, in	Scissors
the community, near their homes etc. You could go out and	
locate the drain around the school. What could be done to	Chalk/spray paint (if
help prevent this? List all the ideas given. Shown the class the	allowed to use on
images of the drain stencils – then ask them to design their	drains)
own. These could then be used around the school	
grounds/community in allowed.	







Activity 2 –	Resources and Equipment
What we flush	Loo Loo's Club video
Watch the video 'Loo Loo's Clubs' https://youtu.be/kwi5w0Qvc9I (1:59)	
Discussion – the 3 P's (pee, poo and paper) are ok but what <b>should not</b> be flushed down the loo?	
Ask the class why do they think this is? What problems might other items cause?	Stop The Block
Show and explain the 'bathroom to beach' infographic from this h Unflushables   City to Sea   The things you really shouldn't flush!.  Ask them what they think are the main offenders (facts in the background notes for more detail)	presentation
Discussion – what do they think happens to unflushable items that are flushed? Do they disintegrate, remain in one piece etc?	
Experiment  • 4 clear containers with lids (e.g. large jars or bottle) half filled with water  • A wet wipe  • A few sheets of toilet paper  • A tissue  • A piece of kitchen roll  (You could also use other unflushables items - cotton wool, cotton bud, tampon. Or you could do the experiment with just a wet wipe and one of the other items)  Discuss with the class which of those items they think are ok to flush and would flush/have flushed themselves. Why do they think it's ok?  Put each of the items into a separate container with the lid on and get 4 pupils to shake them for about 30 seconds. The toilet paper will break down but the others will not.  Ask the class - what has happened to the items in the jar? Which of the items do they now think is ok to flush and why?	Computer/projector 4 clear containers with lids (e.g. large jars) half filled with water
Establish that wet wipes are the worst offenders and explain the facts as to why that is (teachers notes).	Stop The Block presentation
Show pupils the first fatberg picture and ask them what they think it is. Then explain what it is (teachers notes). Go through the presentation	







explaining what impact the fatbergs have, highlighted further by the environmental flood pictures. Point out that all of the pictures are from Wales – this is happening in our sewers.

Ask them to think about how this could be avoided?

#### Activity 3 – Stopping The Block

Look at **some** of the example campaigns to stop this issue –

Poster - citytosea.org.uk

Video - https://youtu.be/csKOddp\_y8A(0:10)

Poster - SC bathroom V7.jpg (4961×3508) (seachangeproject.eu)

Poster -Dirty-Dozen-English-2019.jpg (2339×3308) (thinkbeforeyouflush.org)

Infographic - TBYF-brochure.jpg (847×595)

(thinkbeforeyouflush.org)

Website -Think Before You Flush

Think about the toilets in your school, what is done to ensure 'The Unflushables' don't get flushed?

Each pupil (or in pairs) to then plan/design a mini campaign to raise awareness in school of what should not be flushed and why. Encourage them to be as creative as possible in order to catch people's attention and to be sure what they create is suited to its purpose and audience (e.g. purpose - to raise awareness of what NOT to flush down the toilet, audience – the other pupils in their school).

Mini campaigns could involve - posters, infographics, video storyboards, logo & slogans, memes, social media posts.

Ideas to the be shown and shared with the rest of the class and discuss the impact they might have.

#### Resources and Equipment

Computer/projector

Paper/pens

Devices for research (per pair)

Devices for filming if required.







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#### #BeTheWave

Apply the knowledge gathered in the lesson into action as ethical and informed citizens. It is an important aspect to ensure students know they have the power to enact and make changes within their own lives and within the school. It is also a positive step which helps to balance some of the negative impacts explored within the lesson.

Decide on an action/actions to take forward either as individuals or as a class, these are some suggestions, or the class could generate their own.

#### School:

- Organise regular litter picks of the school grounds
- Put a campaign into action work together and use the resources you have designed to start up the campaign in school

#### Individual:

- Act on what you have learnt today be sure to only flush the 3P's. Throw all wipes, sanitary items, cotton buds and nappies away in the bin.
- Don't litter! And highlight to others that litter can end up in rivers and seas and been very harmful to the environment.
- Sign up to organised campaigns such as Unblocktober awareness campaign, Surfers
   Against Sewage #EndSewagePollution. Recylenow and pledge to #StopFlushingWipes with
   the Rivers Trust

Alternative Activities	Resources and Equipment
Activity 1	River Pollution video
Watch the panorama episode 'River Pollution Scandal' to see other ways untreated sewage is getting into our waters.	
https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/m000vk71	
As a class, discuss ways to tackle this specific problem (such as writing a letter to the water companies) and implement some of the ideas and actions.	
Activity 2	
Watch the Welsh Water video below -	
Ella Explains -https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eY80E269m9M (1:38)	
Pupils to come up with ways this could be avoided (either on the board as a class or spider diagram as pairs/individuals)	









