

**ECO**

**WRITE**

# **REDUCING YOUR CARBON FOOTPRINT**

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**Stimulus Cards To Build Writing Skills  
And Environmental Awareness**



# REDUCING YOUR CARBON FOOTPRINT

# ECO WRITE Cards

ECO WRITE cards contain images, information and activities to increase awareness of global and environmental issues for students through writing in a variety of genres. The focus is on individual and small group work with discussion at whole class level, using the CD-ROM supplied in this pack to facilitate projection on a whiteboard.

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### Acknowledgements

© Les Ray Published by ECO Publishing International Ltd., 2010

ISBN 978-1-907049-29-3

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Printed on recycled paper.

PLEASE HOLD BOTH HANDLES



PLEASE HOLD BOTH HANDLES



# REUSABLE RECYCLABLE

This bag is made from 100% recycled paper and is completely recyclable.

The paper is a minimum of 40% post-consumer recycled fiber and the remainder is post-industrial recycled fiber, excluding handles.



WHOLE  
FOODS

## Shopping Problems

### What's the issue?

- Changing our shopping habits can help to reduce our carbon footprint. Even making lists to go shopping can stop us from over-buying.
- Other factors to consider include: new plastic bags for each trip will not help.
- Everything we buy has a carbon footprint. It has travelled, it uses power to make it; it uses raw materials.

### What you need to know ...

Our shopping habits have a big effect on our carbon footprint and on the environment.

In the UK 9.9 billion new plastic carrier bags were used in 2008 (about 400 per household).

That took about 180,000 tonnes of oil and produced greenhouse gases equivalent to some 100,000 extra cars on the road.

### Non-chronological reports

1. Choose any consumer item and trace its history, from manufacture to disposal, including who is affected and, as far as possible, the amount of carbon generated at each stage. Present your findings in a report.
2. On a map of the world trace the journeys of raw materials processed and made into clothes. Report what you have found about the carbon footprint of items you wear.
3. Write a report about the use of plastic bags in shopping. Why are they a bad thing? Research what other countries are doing to stop the large number being used.

### Let's plan it ...

- You need a title. Use subheadings to start each paragraph. Remember: you do not have to follow a time-order.
- Use diagrams and charts. Give as much detail as you can.
- In your conclusion, write a summary and include a glossary.
- These reports are formal in style.
- Use the present tense and the third person.



## Wind Power

### What's the issue?

- Energy can be converted from one type or form to another.
- Wind power is a renewable energy as the wind continues to blow and it is unlikely to run out.
- A turbine turned by wind or moving water can produce electricity without creating carbon emissions.

### What you need to know ...

The sails of windmills are angled so that they rotate and turn a shaft. This usually turns wheels that drive machinery. A windmill standing alone usually drives mill wheels to grind grain.

Wind-farms are collections of wind turbines that use energy from wind to produce electricity. Flowing water can be used in a similar way or to turn a turbine to produce electricity. Modern wind turbines work in a similar way. Many wind turbines in the same are called 'a wind farm'.

### Narrative writing

1. You find out that the largest wind farm in the country is going to be built near you. Tell the story of how you get others to campaign against this and what happens.
2. Imagine that you are left an old-fashioned haunted windmill by an ancient relative. You go to visit. Tell the story of what happens.
3. Tell the story of the surrounding land and what happened from the point of view of an old windmill. Think of why it was there in the first place. What has happened to it over time. How does it feel now?

### Let's plan it ...

- Plan your story: what is going to happen?
- Will it be exciting from the start or will it reach a climax?
- Stories normally take a problem then come up with a solution.
- How will you move from one part of the story to another?
- What settings and characters will you use?
- Will you use a particular type of story type: fantasy, crime?