

April 2023

A Chairde,


Welcome to the JCT Business Studies April 2023 mailing. We hope you all had a restful and happy Easter and we would like to wish everyone well for the final term.

On Tuesday 25th of April at 7pm the JCT Business Studies team will be hosting an online elective event focusing on sustainability in the Business Studies Classroom. It will be presented by World Wise Global Schools Education Officer Lizzie Noone. Lizzie will be joined by Rachel McEntee, a Business Studies teacher at St. Oliver's Community College, Drogheda. The event will explore approaches and ideas which aims to support teachers in the area of sustainability in our Business Studies Classrooms. To register please click [here](#).

ONLINE RESOURCE

This poster on exploring Global Citizenship Education that was created and published by World Wise Global Schools could be used to support student engagement with many aspects of sustainability across the strands and learning outcomes. Please click [here](#) to access.

An tSraith Shóisearach do Mhúinteoirí
JuniorCYCLE
 for teachers



BUSINESS STUDIES

Opportunities to explore **Global Citizenship Education**.
 Here's a quick look at how!

THE STATEMENTS OF LEARNING AND GLOBAL CITIZENSHIP EDUCATION

SOL 7: The student values what it means to be an active citizen, with rights and responsibilities in local and wider contexts.

Students will evaluate their consumer choices, understanding how their choices impact positively and negatively on their community and the wider world.

As a global citizen, the student considers the wellbeing of people, planet and peace in these consumer choices.

SOL 9: The student understands the origins and impacts of social, economic, and environmental aspects of the world around her/him.

Students will examine the extent to which an organisation can impact on the economy, people and environment in which it is based.

As a global citizen, the student examines the impact of organisations from an equality, justice and human rights viewpoint considering the impact on the planet.

"You have to ask yourself: if our economic system actively destroys the biosphere 'and' fails to meet most people's basic needs, then what is actually the point?"
Jason Hickel

[Find out about Jason Hickel](#)

www.worldwiseschools.ie

THE STRANDS AND LEARNING OUTCOMES

Here's a quick look at where you can explore global issues in your Business Studies classroom under each strand:

STRAND 1
Personal Finance

1.1. Review the personal resources available to them to realise their needs and wants and analyse the extent to which realising their needs and wants may impact on individuals and society

- Calculate your Ecological Footprint
- Do 'Needs and Wants activity 3' in *Going Beyond the Symbol*

1.9 Debate the ethical and sustainability issues that arise from their consumption of goods and services and evaluate how they can contribute to sustainable development through consumer behaviour

Look at:

- Fast Fashion
- Upcycling
- Reduce, Repair, Reuse and Recycle

STRAND 2
Enterprise

2.2 Describe the skills and characteristics of being enterprising and appreciate the role of an entrepreneur in an organisation, in society and to the economy

- Research creative solutions to sustainability issues that businesses have developed. What creative solutions can you or your class develop to improve sustainability?
- Explore the marketing, media and public relations of organisations. Are they genuinely sustainable or are they 'green washing'?

2.4 Distinguish between the rights and responsibilities of employer and employee from a legal, social, environmental and ethical perspective

- Explore employees rights using the 'Race to the Bottom' activity in *Not Business as Usual* resource.
- Explore the change in employment contracts over the last 20 years

2.5 Investigate the positive and negative impacts on a community of an organisation from an economic, social and environmental perspective

- Follow the supply chain of an organisation from raw material to retail
- Investigate the good practice of ethical brands

STRAND 3
Our Economy

3.1 Explain how scarcity of economic resources results in individuals having to make choices; predict possible consequences of these choices

- Explore with students why scarcity for some and abundance for others?
- Explore different models of economics such as 'toughnut economics'

3.6 Explain how economic growth can impact positively and negatively on society and the environment and justify the promotion of sustainable development

- Explore alternative measures of the wellbeing of society to Gross Domestic Product such as the Happiness Index, Sustainability Index, Human Development Index and Gross Ecosystem Product
- Introduce the idea of degrowth

3.7 Debate the implications of globalisation of trade, including the benefits and challenges of international trade

- Explore Trade Justice and Celebrate Fair Trade Fortnight with your students

3.11 Evaluate the benefits and costs of a government economic policy and assess who enjoys the benefits and who bears the costs

- Is economic policy based on profit or people? Are our policies sustainable? Explore economic policies in other countries that focus on sustainability?
- Explore Tax Justice and how tax can help people access their basic needs

POSSIBLE IDEAS FOR CLASSROOM BASED ASSESSMENTS

FINANCE IN ACTION

- Keep a journal of your weekly spending. For each purchase investigate where the product comes from, how much it costs and put your purchases into categories of needs and wants.
- Compare the funding of a for-profit and non-profit organisation
- Organise a debate in your school based on the motion 'Consumers have the power to change the world'

ENTERPRISE IN ACTION

- Develop a business plan for a new product or service that considers ethical production and consumption
- Develop an action plan for a school swap shop or a Fair Trade tuck shop
- Bank - arrange micro-finance loans to students for social enterprise activities

ECONOMICS IN ACTION

Choose an economic policy in Ireland or in another country, and examine the positive/negative impacts on society and the environment. For example:

- Investigate a tariff or trade rule for a product or service you like e.g. chocolate.
- Carbon and/or corporation tax
- Policies that provide for people's basic needs