

## Mother Earth

### Topic

Environment, science and nature

### Learning outcomes

- Use simple science and nature vocabulary
- Say simple sentences to describe what our planet gives us
- Use the present simple tense to describe facts
- Develop ability to brainstorm and express and share ideas

### Age and level

5-8 (A1)

### Time

Approximately 50-60 minutes

### Materials

- Student worksheet (to display or 1 per group)
- A selection from: chart paper, coloured paper, pencils, pens or crayons for colouring, scissors, glue (optional: pictures to collage)

### Introduction

In this lesson, children brainstorm ideas about the things our planet gives us and make their own drawings with text or posters to share their ideas. This lesson could be used to supplement the theme of the environment or on the United Nation's Mother Earth Day, celebrated on 22 April each year.

**Procedure**

<b>Before the lesson</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Option 1:</b> Prepare to display the image of Mother Earth on the student worksheet, e.g. by projecting it onto the board or screen, or using an interactive whiteboard.</li> <li>• <b>Option 2:</b> Download and make copies of the student worksheet. You will need one copy for each group of learners.</li> <li>• If learners are making posters in groups, have materials ready.</li> </ul>
<b>1. Warmer (5 mins)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Option 1:</b> Show the image of Mother Earth on the student worksheet. You could project it onto the board or display it on a screen.</li> <li>• <b>Option 2:</b> Organise learners into small groups. Give each group a copy of the student worksheet.</li> <li>• Check that learners understand the words 'Mother Earth' and ask why we call our planet 'Mother Earth'. Suggestions: We all come from the planet. Earth provides us with the things we need.</li> </ul> <p><b>Note:</b> You may prefer or need to use learners' first / home language at this stage. The aim is to introduce the topic, and to make sure that all learners understand what the lesson will be about.</p>
<b>2. Vocabulary (10-15 mins)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Learners look at the picture and tell you what they can see. Answers can include the Sun, the Moon, the sky, air, clouds, water (river, sea), plants (forests, trees, fruit, flowers, crops), mountains (snow), animals (birds, fish, pets, cows, insects) and the face of Mother Earth (eyes, ears, nose, mouth; we have our senses because we were born here and need them to survive).</li> <li>• After brainstorming some ideas, write some of the children's answers around the image of Mother Earth. Choose words which are suitable for the age and level of your learners. You may choose to review words they are familiar with or to introduce new words.</li> <li>• Learners write the words in their notebooks or on the student worksheet.</li> <li>• With older classes, you could encourage learners to organise their ideas into categories, e.g. air, water, food, clothes, houses, keeping warm, our senses, beautiful things; in this case, learners write examples around each category.</li> </ul>
<b>3. Making posters (25-30 mins)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Organise learners into groups if they are not already in groups. Explain that they are going to make a Mother Earth poster. They will draw Mother Earth on the poster and some of the things that Earth provides.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hand materials for making posters out to each group or make them available in one area of the room.</li> <li>• In groups, learners cut out a large circle from coloured paper to paste on a piece of chart paper to represent the earth. Alternatively, they can draw a large circle.</li> <li>• They then take turns to draw and colour pictures of things that Mother Earth provides. Walk around the room and encourage them to use their imagination: 'Rainbows! Yes, that's a lovely idea. I see you have lots of ants on your Earth; it's true there are lots of ants on our planet! Yes, and volcanoes too!'</li> <li>• Others in the group write the title and labels for the pictures on the poster. They can write these on paper to glue around their picture of the earth, or they can write directly on the poster. If making collages, have some magazines, glue and scissors on hand for children to add cut-out photos and pictures to their posters.</li> <li>• As you walk around the room, help learners with any new words. Write them down for them to copy and give them the pronunciation of each new word.</li> <li>• Groups who finish early can practise presenting their poster to the class.</li> </ul> <p><b>Note:</b> If you wish to do this as an individual activity, learners could draw the earth in their notebooks, writing the words around their pictures.</p>
<b>4. Presenting posters (10-15 mins)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Use the Mother Earth worksheet to give some examples of sentences groups can use in their presentations. Use language appropriate to the age and level of your learners. Examples: Mother Earth gives us air (to breathe). The earth gives us plants (to eat). There are flowers. There are beautiful butterflies.</li> <li>• If appropriate, write some structures on the board for learners to use, for example: The earth gives us... to ... There is ... There are ...</li> <li>• Ask groups to present their posters to the class. If you have a large class, just choose some groups, or put groups together to present to each other.</li> <li>• If possible, display the posters on the classroom wall or in school corridors.</li> </ul>

**Contributed by**

Karen Elliott