

# WEEK TEN Sustainability

## This week students will:

1. Demonstrate their understanding of the concepts of sustainability.
2. Identify some features of a sustainable world and represent them visually.

### Learning outcomes

#### Year 3 & 4

Visual Arts ACAVAM111, ACAVAM112

Digital Technologies ACTDIK007,  
ACTDIK008

#### Year 5 & 6

Visual Arts ACAVAM115, ACAVAM116

### Materials required:

Various art supplies.

### Activities:

Create an artwork reflecting your ideas of a sustainable world.

### The Game

Habitat the Game aims to give players a holistic view of sustainability by measuring their eco footprint including the measurement of carbon, land and water.

Sustainability is based on a simple principle: Everything that we need for our survival and wellbeing depends, either directly or indirectly, on our natural environment. Sustainability creates and maintains the conditions under which humans and nature can exist in productive harmony, that permit fulfilling the social, economic and other requirements of present and future generations.

Sustainability is important to making sure that we have and will continue to have, the water, materials, and resources to protect human health and our environment.

## Week 10 — Sustainability

Sustainability and Sustainable Development are often used interchangeable.

### The Brundtland Report

The term 'sustainable development' was popularised by the World Commission on Environment and Development (WCED) in its 1987 report entitled Our Common Future. This book is also known as the Brundtland Report, after the Chair of the Commission and former Prime Minister of Norway, Gro Harlem Brundtland.

The aim of the World Commission was to find practical ways of addressing the environmental and developmental problems of the world. In particular, it had three general objectives:

- To re-examine the critical environmental and development issues and to formulate realistic proposals for dealing with them;
- To propose new forms of international co-operation on these issues that will influence policies and events in the direction of needed changes; and
- To raise the levels of understanding and commitment to action of individuals, voluntary organisations, businesses, institutes, and governments.

Our Common Future was written after three years of public hearings and over five hundred written submissions. Commissioners from twenty one countries analysed this material, with the final report being submitted to the United Nations General Assembly in 1987.

### Key Issues

Our Common Future reported on many of the global realities explored in Module 1, and recommended urgent action on eight key issues to ensure that development was sustainable, i.e. that it would satisfy 'the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs'. These eight issues were:

- Population and Human Resources
- Industry
- Food Security
- Species and Ecosystems
- The Urban Challenge
- Managing the Commons
- Energy
- Conflict and Environmental Degradation

References: <http://www.australiancurriculum.edu.au/crosscurriculumpriorities/sustainability>

<http://www.un-documents.net/ocf-02.htm>

[http://www.unesco.org/education/tlsf/mods/theme\\_a/mod02.html?panel=1#top](http://www.unesco.org/education/tlsf/mods/theme_a/mod02.html?panel=1#top)

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