

Lesson Plan

Lesson 3: What is fast fashion and why is it bad?

Year Group: 3-6

National Curriculum links:

Design

- 1) Select and use a range of tools and materials, including textiles.
- 2) Investigate and evaluate existing products and consider sustainability.

Geography

- 1) Understand how human actions (like fast fashion) affect the environment.
- 2) Explore resource use and sustainability

Summary:

In this lesson, children will learn what fast fashion and slow fashion mean. They will explore how clothes are made, how quickly they are used and thrown away, and how this affects people and the planet. Through discussion, sorting activities, and real-life examples, pupils will compare the advantages and disadvantages of both types of fashion. They will also think about how their own choices can help reduce waste and protect the environment.

Prior knowledge required:

- Basic understanding of what clothes are made from (e.g. cotton, wool, polyester).
- Awareness that clothes come from different places and are made by people.
- Simple knowledge of natural vs. man-made materials.
- Understanding of the concept of waste – what it is and why it matters.

Learning objective: To understand the difference between fast fashion and slow fashion and explore the pros and cons of each.

Success criteria:

- I can explain what fast fashion and slow fashion mean.
- I can list at least one advantage and one disadvantage of each.
- I can describe how fashion choices affect people and the environment.
- I can suggest ways to make more sustainable clothing choices.

Prepare before the lesson:

Mini whiteboards and whiteboard pens.

Resources for optional extension activities (see PPT).

Lesson outline

Slide 4: Vocabulary

Explicitly teach children the vocabulary words using the definitions in the PPT notes.

Slide 5: Vocabulary task

Give 2 minutes for children to write the missing vocabulary word for each question.

Slide 7: Recap the journey of a cotton T-shirt from lesson 2

Slide 9-12: Definition of fast and slow fashion

Slide 14-17: Fast fashion

Follow the slides to teach children about fast fashion and its pros and cons

Slide 18-21: Slow fashion

Follow the slides to teach children about slow fashion and its pros and cons

Slide 22-23: How to look after the clothes we own

Slide 24: Discussion points (see PPT notes)

Slide 25-27: Optional extension activities