

Lesson title
The Story of Stuff World Café

Notes: This 2-lesson plan provides an opportunity for team-teaching and extension action plans. Since *The Story of Stuff* first premiered in 2007 it's been watched online over 10 million times.

Global Themes
Sustainable Action
Interdependence
Conflict
Social Justice
Images & Perceptions

Atlantic Curriculum Outcomes
Grade 10 Science:

Life Science: Sustainability of Ecosystems
Sustainability

- question and analyse how a paradigm shift in sustainability can change society's views (114-1)

Sustainability of an Ecosystem

- diagnose and report the ecosystem's response to short-term stress and long-term change (213-7, 215-1, 318-4)

STSE and Sustainable Development

- identify, investigate, and defend a course of action on a multi-perspective social issue (118-9, 215-4, 118-5)
- identify and describe peer review, Canadian research, and global projects where science and technology affect sustainable development (114-5, 116-1, 117-3, 118-1)

Grade 12 Science

- evaluate social issues related to the applications and limitations of science and technology, and explain decisions in terms of advantages and disadvantages for sustainability, considering a variety of perspectives

Objectives

Outline the specific learning objectives of the lesson

Materials

Technology to show the film; classroom set up for a world café discussion; copies of discussion questions. **Please note** that the first activity requires preparing ahead to ask students to bring material with them to class. This can be done in class or on-line.

Activity

- Ask students to bring in an ad they find appealing. In partners, have students present their ad to one another. Then have the partner evaluate the ad using the critical analysis sheet (attached). Class discussion. Watch the beginning of the film.

Using the World Café as a format assign questions from the discussion guide provided and/or add your own. The Café to go guide is provided on your USB drive or you can access it at the following link:

<http://www.theworldcafe.com/pdfs/cafetogo.pdf>

Discussion

Discussion questions provided in the attached document are to promote critical reflection and to assist the table host in deepening the conversation.

Extension Action Projects

- **Option 1:** Go through the 'Six Steps to Sustainable Action' chart on Page 85 of your course guide and choose a class action project. Alternatively, you could prepare a list of possible actions allowing for class input. Here are a few suggestions:
 - Have students prepare a public service announcement (PSA) that presents a) their rights according to the Convention on the Rights of the Child to be protected from media messages and the negative environmental consequences that overconsumption will have on children's lives; b) a solution that is locally-based. (eg. a commercial for a locally-owned business that reflects just, sustainable practices).
 - Have students organize a community Reuse & Recycle Fair. Have them come up with a creative title. Make the fair a triple benefit in that citizens can learn about consumerism, get rid of stuff they don't need and perhaps get something they do need, they can also donate to a worthy cause (proceeds could be divided amongst a school green club, a local ecology centre and a global environmental fund).



- Have learners create their own version of the *Story of Stuff*, or expand on a segment of the video that they are particularly interested in, but in either case targeting a different audience. To make the action project an authentic learning experiences have students connect with their target audience and make arrangements to have that audience view their message. This could be a lunch & learn directed at parents, a storybook for children that they would arrange a reading at a local elementary school, or if there are film festivals in the area this could be an opportunity to submit their work.

Video Resources: In Atlantic Canada, ViewFinders is a five-day celebration of film, video and media geared towards youth ages 3-18. The festival includes a comprehensive school program complete with a guide for educators, as well as evening and weekend screenings and events for families and young adults. ViewFinders features films from around the world and includes a selection of films made by youth.

Website: <http://www.atlanticfilm.com/view/>

Students can also share segments on the *Story of Stuff* site. For more information, email info@storyofstuff.org.

Listen Up! is a youth media network that connects young video producers and their allies to resources, support, and projects in order to develop the field and achieve an authentic youth voice in the mass media.

Website: <http://listenup.org/>