

Geography Environmental Audit

1. People and communities

Does the locality have people who would be willing to talk to children about their lives in the area and how these may have changed?

Conservationist	Musician / artist	Sports person
Charity worker	Builder	Lorry driver
Person from a contrasting part of Ireland	People who have relatives in other parts of the world	People who are from other parts of the world.
Other?		

2. Identify some major natural features in the local environment.

Woodland		Hill	
Hedgerow		Mountains	
Forest		Drumlins	
Grassland		Valley	
Waste ground		Highland	
Peatland		Moor	
Bog		Estuary	
Soil		Bank of river	
Marshy area		Cliffs	
Island		Wall	
Flora		Fauna	

3. Water in the environment

Pond		Lakes	
Stream		Estuaries	
River		Beach	
Canal		Seashore	
Rain		Other?	
puddles			

4. Are there streams/ivers in your locality that are tributaries of a main river?

Can these be identified/located on ordnance survey maps of various scales?

5. Settlement: Homes and buildings.

Identify features of the built environment in the locality?

Place names / street names		Single homes		Groups of homes	
Farmhouse		Cottage		Caravan	
Mobile home		Apartment		Offices	
Factories		Hospital		Re-use of buildings	
Farmyard		Shops		Colours, textures in buildings	
Newer areas of settlement		Older areas of settlement		Re-use of buildings	
Services to buildings e.g. electricity, phone etc.		Advertisements		Streetscapes	

6. Identify materials used to construct homes and other buildings.

Identify materials of local origin.

Buildings in which the following materials are used			
Sand		Corrugated iron	
Brick		Roof Tiles	
Local stone		Slate	
Cut stone		Timber	
Concrete blocks		PVC	
Cement		Glass	
Other?			

7. Are there different forms of transport and communication in the locality?

Roads		Airports		Train stations	
Bus stops		Ports & harbours		Post	
Railways		Canals		E mail	
Train stations		Gas pipelines			

8. Identify any natural materials found in the environment.

Mud		Sand	
Soil		Water	
Rocks		Peat	
Stones		Clay	
Pebbles		Gravel	
Plant material		Silt	
? other			

9. List common rock samples which may be found in our local environment.

Igneous	Sedimentary	Metamorphic	
Granite	Limestone	Quartz	
	Sandstone	Marble	
	Shale	Slate	

10. List/identify simple common routes, both indoors and outdoors, that can be mapped easily for children's use.

Include several features that may be by children located along the route.

11. Is there a compass rose painted on the yard as a reference point for children?

12. What seasonal changes can pupils observe?

Include aspects from Natural Environment, e.g. habitats and Human Environment, e.g. buildings

13. Name a local building/s that you think enhances the environment. Why?

14. Name a building/s that, in your opinion, doesn't enhance environment? Why?

15. Examples of the positive impact of human activities on the environment in our school?

16. Examples of the negative impact of human activities on the environment can be observed/explored by pupils in our school?

17. What strategies for improving and caring for the environment can pupils implement in our school?

18. What strategies for improving and caring for the environment can be implemented by teachers/parents?

19. What local environmental issues can pupils investigate/help to resolve?

See also Geography Teacher Guidelines
Conducting an environmental audit
Exemplar 4 pg. 70 to 73