Lesson 2: Conscience Alley & Freeze Frame

Purpose
To explore attitudes towards forestry.

Equipment needed:
- Resource sheets 2 and 3 (overleaf)
- Internet access to research links
- Image of forestry worker: overleaf & www.fsc-uk.org/forestryworker

What to do:
1. Display the image of the forestry worker and briefly ask the pupils to:
   - Describe what they can see.
   - Explain what they think is happening.
   - Suggest where in the world this might be taking place.

2. Conscience Alley - Explain that they’re going to explore their feelings about this image using role play and an activity called a ‘conscience alley’. Ask the pupils to imagine that the forestry worker is walking through the forest on his/her way to work in the early morning. Pupils need to stand in two lines facing each other with a space down the middle. One person plays the role of the forestry worker and walks slowly between the two lines of pupils. The pupils in the lines take the role of the forestry worker’s conscience and speak their mind as the worker comes alongside them. The ‘forestry worker’ should pause to allow the person to make their point but should not respond in any other way.

   When the forestry worker reaches the end of the line they might be asked to explain how they’ve been affected by listening to ‘their conscience’. The process might be repeated to allow pupils to gather their thoughts and/or make a contribution.

3. Brainstorm – List words that describe the pupils’ feelings about:
   - Forestry.
   - The forestry worker.

   What makes us feel like this? Are these feelings based on things that we know? What sorts of facts have influenced the way you feel when you see this image? Is that a fact or an opinion?

4. Research - Explain that the pupils are going to do some research which will help them to explore their feelings and opinions. Pupils should work in pairs or small groups. Each group should be given a copy of one of the resource sheets 2 or 3. Explain that they will be asked to present their thoughts about forestry and forestry workers in the next activity.

   Pupils should make notes about their thoughts and findings.

5. Freeze Frame - The pupils should stand in a circle - members of the same group can stand alongside one another. One group will be asked to mime a scene suggested by the forestry worker in the photo. The action begins; the teacher freezes the scene at an appropriate time and invites one of the groups to present their ideas about forestry. The group who’ve presented their ideas then takes the role of the forestry workers; the action is frozen and another group are invited to present their ideas.

6. Plenary - Invite pupils to discuss and vote on the following statement:
   - Forestry plays an important role in helping to protect the environment.

Love the Forest? Look for the Logo!
www.fsc-uk.org/education
Resource Sheet 2:

- An area of ancient forest the size of a football pitch is destroyed every 2 seconds.
- Forests (especially tropical rainforests) are the world's richest ecosystems – home to 90% of the world's land-based plant and animal species.
- Forest loss threatens many species with extinction - Orangutans may disappear within the next 20 years due to logging and turning forests into palm oil and rice plantations.
- Forests prevent soil erosion.
- Forests help to prevent climate change – trees and plants remove carbon from the atmosphere.
- 10% of the world’s forests have disappeared in the last 25 years, mainly due to human activities.
- Deforestation feeds climate change – CO2 is produced by fires used to clear forests, trees no longer act as carbon sinks and forest soils often release CO2 as they dry-out.
- About 33% of the world’s forests are likely to be damaged by climate change.
- More than 20 percent of the world oxygen is produced in the Amazon rainforest.
- Every year an area half the size of the UK is cleared of natural forests.
- Forests are being removed at a rate 10 times higher than any possible level of regrowth.
- Only 10% of all forests are protected areas.

Resource Sheet 3:

- Nearly half of the world’s species of plants, animals and microorganisms will be destroyed or severely threatened over the next quarter century due to rainforest deforestation.
- Rainforests once covered 14% of the earth’s land surface – this has fallen to 6%.
- Experts estimate that the last remaining rainforests could be destroyed in less than 40 years.
- About 16% of the wood delivered to building sites is never used and ends up in land fill sites as waste scraps.
- 25% of our medicines have been developed from rainforest ingredients. Less than 1% of rainforest trees and plants have been tested by scientists to see if they can be used to develop other medicines.
- At least 80% of the foods we eat come from plants that originated in the tropical rainforest e.g. oranges, lemons, bananas, tomatoes, corn, potatoes, rice, chocolate, sugar cane and nuts.
- Forests provide a huge renewable resource.
- If people can’t make money from the forests, by selling the wood, they may decide to chop all the trees down to use the land to grow crops or raise cattle.
- Forestry provides paid work for lots of people.
- Countries in Africa, Asia and South America sell timber to countries like USA, Japan, China, UK and Germany.
- Global wood consumption is projected to increase 50 percent by the year 2050.
- Forests support up to 1.6 billion of the poorest people in the world – providing things like food, jobs, medicines, fuel and materials used to make homes and household goods.
- Forestry can be sustainable – when a tree is cut down, another can be replanted or allowed to grow naturally.
- Sustainable forestry can provide the landowner with more income than they’d get if they cleared the forest and used the land for farming.
- 60 million indigenous people and countless species of plants and animals are completely dependent on forests for their lives.
- Organisations like WWF, Greenpeace and the Woodland Trust believe that it’s OK to cut down trees to make things like furniture, building materials and paper – as long as it’s properly managed.
- Timber is the only major building material that is renewable.
- Forests provide a huge sustainable source of environmentally friendly raw material - for a wide variety of products!
- Timber does not require lots of energy when it is being processed.
- It takes 8 times more kilowatt hours of energy to manufacture a PVC-U window compared to a timber window.
- Manufacturing a steel girder requires 4,000 times more energy than its timber equivalent.
- Concrete creates 5 times as much solid waste as timber.