

6.54 Introducing persuasive texts

<p>Topic: Conservation Subtopic: Energy sources Activity type/skill: Orientation Literacy focus: Writing Genre: Persuasive texts</p>

Objective

- Recall vocabulary and subject matter relating to these aspects of conservation – water use, climate change and energy issues.
- Provide links to prior knowledge.
- Introduce the conventions of writing opinions (argument).

What you need

- Student worksheet (see next page)


What to do

1. Look at the student worksheet. Read the question at the top of the page and read and discuss the given opinions. Draw out the students' knowledge of the topic and its vocabulary by asking questions about the pictures like:
 - 'Which students think we should plant more trees?'
 - 'Read out one reason why we should plant more trees'
 - 'Which students do you agree with? Why?'
 - 'Can you think of one more reason why we should plant more trees?'
 - 'Should more trees be planted in your country? Why?'
2. Emphasise that it is alright to have any opinion if you can justify/give a reason for your opinion. There are no rights and wrongs.
3. Have students write one reason why we should or why we should not plant more trees in the empty speech bubble at the bottom of the worksheet.


Extending the activity

- Introduce a general topic that is often argued about by the school population. Write it on the board as a question. Have students make statements like 'I think we/the school/the principal should... because...', 'If we... we would...'


Should New Zealanders plant more trees?




If we had more trees they would store carbon dioxide and help to slow down climate change.



I don't think we should plant more trees because we should use the land to grow food.



If we plant more trees they will be shady and cool to sit under in the summer.



I don't think we should plant more trees because they take so long to grow. We need energy now.

