

Eastern Africa Coastal Forest Mystery

Page 1

Introduction

Mysteries involve pupils putting together clues written on separate pieces of paper to answer a question. Excellent for developing literacy, thinking and problem-solving skills, they are also very good for exploring global interconnectedness.

Before the lesson - photocopy, cut up and shuffle the cards. Give one set to each small group of pupils and ask them to find out the answer to the question.

Page 2

The Mystery Question

Words to look up in the dictionary

Pages 3, 4

Mystery (16 cards)

Pages 5, 6

Mystery (14 cards)

As above with less cards and simpler language

Page 7

Background information for teachers

Powerpoint

There is also a powerpoint to use with pupils containing the instructions, words to look up in the dictionary, the question and the pictures. Use the pictures in the powerpoint afterwards, or use the pictures if a group needs help.

After the activity, discuss the story with pupils.
How does the project help protect the rainforest?
How does it work against climate change?

There is a link at the bottom of page 7 to the WWF blog about this project which pupils may like to look at.

In your groups you will be given a set of cards.
They make a story about a village in Kenya.
Put them in the right order to answer the question.

Question:

Why are the children in Fihoni village getting better marks in school?

Look these words up in the dictionary to help you

Sustainable	
Fuel Efficient	
Contribute	
Poverty	
Kerosene	

Size of Wales KS2 Education Pack



Version 1

Why are the children in Fihoni village getting better marks in school?

Fihoni village is near the Gogoni forest in Kenya

A project called 'Clean Energy Villages' has come to Fihoni. It provides more than 400 families with clean, sustainable energy.

Some of the money for the project comes from Size of Wales, a rainforest charity in Cardiff, and WWF.

In villages in the area, over 85% of the families used to use firewood for cooking and oil called kerosene for lighting.

The stoves for cooking used a lot of wood that was cut from the forests. This led to the loss of trees and habitats for the wildlife.

Using inefficient stoves also meant that girls had to spend about an hour a day gathering wood from the forest after school.

Kerosene lamps are not very bright so people could not see very well, and the smoke made their eyes red and itchy.

Kerosene is expensive and is hard for people to afford.

Size of Wales KS2 Education Pack



Version 1

Burning kerosene also releases CO₂ and, like unsustainable firewood, using it contributes to climate change.

The 'Clean Energy Villages' project helps people in Fihoni to use solar lanterns for lighting. They can also use solar power to charge their mobile phones.

Some schools in Wales have been learning about rainforests and have raised money for Size of Wales.

Now families use new energy saving stoves for cooking, which need much less firewood.

The villagers will also plant trees on farms, so that they have a sustainable source of wood instead of cutting down the forests.

As well as helping to protect these forests, 'Clean Energy Villages' helps improve the lives of people living in poverty.

"This has helped me save 40 Kenyan shillings every day which I used to spend buying kerosene for my lamp and charging my mobile phone," said Mama Zainab, who lives in Fihoni.

Because of the changes, children can study for three hours in the evening. Some of them are getting 20% better marks in school.

Version 2

Why are the children in Fihoni village getting better marks in school?

Fihoni village is near the Gogoni forest in Kenya

The 'Clean Energy Villages' project helps families in Fihoni use clean, sustainable energy.

People in Fihoni used to cook on stoves that used a lot of firewood.

The wood for the stoves was cut from the forests. This meant that forests and homes for wildlife were being lost.

Girls collected wood for the stoves after school.

People used oil called kerosene for lamps. Kerosene is expensive.

Kerosene lamps are not very bright so people could not see very well, and the smoke made their eyes itch.

Burning kerosene gives off CO₂.

Version 2

The 'Clean Energy Villages' project helps people to buy solar powered lamps. They can also use solar power to charge their mobile phones.

Some schools in Wales have been learning about rainforests and have raised money for Size of Wales.

Now families have new energy saving stoves for cooking, which need much less firewood.

The villagers will plant more trees to use instead of cutting down the forests.

'Clean Energy Villages' helps to improve the lives of people in poverty and protect the forests.

Because of the changes, children can study for three hours in the evening. Some of them are getting 20% better marks in school.

Additional Information

About Clean Energy Villages

(these could be used as an extra 4 cards in the mystery)

Some of the money raised by Size of Wales, a rainforest charity, goes to support the 'Clean Energy Villages', a WWF project in the Eastern Africa Coastal Forest in Kenya.

For every solar lantern WWF provides, the community buys one more at a cost of around 30 pounds each. This means each family has two lanterns.

WWF also supports the local community bank, which has made special credit arrangements, ensuring every member of the community can afford the lanterns.

So far, nearly 400 families have received the lanterns and 50 have received stoves. The initial results indicate massive changes in the lifestyle of the families.

The amount of firewood needed for cooking has been reduced by more than 50%! From improving education standards, to reducing time gathering firewood, to saving money, it's amazing how a project can have such massive impacts on people's wellbeing within such a short time

About the Eastern Africa Coastal Forest

Size of Wales

http://www.sizeofwales.org.uk/projects/wwf_eastern_coast.html

WWF blogs on the Eastern Forest

<http://sizeofwales.tumblr.com/tagged/wwf>