

Young Reporters' Scotland

Getting Started with Young Reporters' Scotland Slide Guide

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Getting Started with Young Reporters' Scotland



This resource introduces your pupils to the idea of becoming reporters and thinking more about environmental and sustainability issues in a local context:

Before you begin and so we can make sure you have access to our all important resources, please register with us at: <https://www.keepsotlandbeautiful.org/yrs/getinvolved>

Introducing Young Reporters' Scotland (YRS) to your pupils:

Young Reporters' Scotland is the perfect opportunity for you to investigate and report on an environmental or sustainability issue which matters to you, empowering you to make your voice heard. You can build and develop your skills and creatively raise awareness of sustainability issues within your community and beyond.

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SHARING YOUR VOICE



Young Reporters' Scotland provides exciting opportunities for you to:

- ❖ Build life-changing skills
- ❖ Be part of an international group of young, like minded people
- ❖ Be creative
- ❖ Raise awareness of sustainability and environmental issues
- ❖ **HAVE FUN** whilst at the same time, make a huge difference!



www.keepsotlandbeautiful.org



No Notes

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DISCUSS

YRS encourages you to report on environmental & sustainability issues that are important to you, issues that affect you and your community, issues that may affect your future!

Before you get started, ask yourself, what does sustainability mean? Put this into the context of the environment

Answer: Development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to be able to meet their own needs.

It is important for your pupils to fully understand what we mean by sustainability so they can become the best possible reporters for YRS.

Discuss with your pupils what they think sustainability means and encourage them to give you examples.

Some examples you can use in your discussions are:

- ♦ The way we currently use plastic – is this sustainable?
- ♦ If we continue to grow something on the same piece of land without giving it time to recover – is this sustainable?
- ♦ The amount of diesel that we are putting into cars – is this sustainable?
- ♦ Is shipping products such as bananas all over the world sustainable? In Scotland, do we need bananas to survive?
- ♦ Are cheap £2.50 clothes sustainable? Your pupils should do some research into why these clothes are so cheap and what the real cost of the £2.50 item is to the environment
- ♦ Is buying new clothes all the time sustainable? What happens to the old clothes?
- ♦ Is landfill waste sustainable? What happens when landfill runs out – pupils can research how we ship a lot of waste (in particular, electronic waste) to less developed countries, is this fair? Is this sustainable?
- ♦ Is getting a new phone every time it breaks, or you lose it or the latest model comes out sustainable?

NOTE: the answer to this will appear on slide 4

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DISCUSS

- ❖ Do you think you are living as sustainably as you can?
- ❖ What do you do at the moment to help our environment?

Through YRS this is your opportunity to share your voice on important environmental and sustainability issues.



In groups* ask your pupils to discuss the questions for 10 mins each question.

Encourage them to share their responses with the rest of the class, further developing their knowledge and understanding of what we mean by sustainability

*group size can be determined by you.

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REPORTING

REPORTING WITH YRS CAN BE DONE IN MANY FORMS:

- ❖ WRITTEN – you can create articles & blogs
- ❖ FILM
- ❖ PHOTOGRAPHY



Young Reporters' Scotland suits pupils with an array of skills and they have the opportunity to report in various forms

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REPORTING TASK - WRITTEN

YRS REPORTING TASK

How sustainable is your school?

- ❖ What does your school do to try and be more sustainable?
- ❖ Are you involved in any activities in school that work towards helping the environment?
- ❖ What do you do in school to help with sustainability?

Have a school walk through and look at how things are disposed of and what products are used

- ❖ Create a short article on:
 - Why is it important to be sustainable?
 - What is your school doing to be more sustainable?
 - What can your school do better?

In groups of 3:

Pupils should research what the school does to be more sustainable – are you part of eco-schools? Do you have an eco-schools green flag award? Is there an eco-committee? Is there an eco-club? Does the school recycle? How do they recycle? Could they do better? Are there any products in school that contribute to environmental issues e.g. single use plastic cups or straws? Are there any quick and easy steps that can be taken to make the school more sustainable? Do you notice any litter in or around the school grounds? Have you ever done a litter pick? Are there ways your school can minimise waste?

Each group should then write an A4 article about why it's important to be sustainable and what the school are doing to help. They can also add in some suggestions of what else can be done to help with sustainability.

Use examples from YRS of how an article can look <https://www.keepsotlandbeautiful.org/yrs/yourstories>

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REPORTING TASK - WRITTEN

YRS REPORTING TASK -TIPS

- ❖ **Do your research!** Find out as much background information as you can, including key facts and figures.
- ❖ Identify key individuals that you may wish to speak with and wherever possible make sure you plan your questions before speaking with them.
- ❖ **Who is your audience?** Always keep this in mind when writing your article.
- ❖ Keep your article simple, structured and your writing clear
- ❖ **Make your article stand out!** Start your article with a catchy title and a clear introduction that highlights the main points of the story. Try to make it interesting and engaging so that people want to continue reading.

For more reporting Tips:

www.keepsotlandbeautiful.org/yrs

Research is key here – encourage your reporters to think as a journalist would and really immerse themselves in the task at hand.

We have a great YRS resource online which we would encourage you to download for your pupils which gives them lots of tips on being a reporter titled: Guide to Becoming a Reporter with Young Reporters' Scotland

www.keepsotlandbeautiful.org/yrs/resources

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REPORTING TASK - WRITTEN

YRS REPORTING TASK - SHARING

Through YRS we want you to share your voice and hard work!

Discuss where can you share your articles and the information you have found and make plans to share your learning?



Encourage pupils to think about their audience and key messages from their articles. Where can they share this learning?

- In the school newsletter
- Meet with the Eco-schools club or committee
- At a school assembly
- At a school eco-day
- Through the school website or social media channels

The more people they share their learning with, the better it will be for the environment.

Make plans with your pupils to share this learning and share their voice on environmental and sustainability issues. This is just the start of their reporting journey with Young Reporters' Scotland.

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YOUNG REPORTERS' SCOTLAND



Join Young Reporters' Scotland Annual Competition & Beyond

Put your new found skills to the test and take your passion for environmental and sustainability issues further by taking part in our annual competition!

Keep an eye on our website for more details:

www.keepsotlandbeautiful.org/yrs

YRS is something you can continue to do beyond school & you can register with us to make sure we send you lots of updates & all important competition information:

GET INVOLVED

<https://www.keepsotlandbeautiful.org/yrs/getinvolved>

As a class you are registered with Young Reporters' Scotland (see slide 1 if you havent registered yet) this means you can take part in our annual competition, giving your pupils the chance to develop their skills further, have a unique platform for that all important pupil voice on environmental and sustainability issues, win some great prizes and have fun.

Keep an eye on emails and our website for more information on our annual competition. Discuss with your pupils how they wish to enter, as individuals, as groups or as a class and also what form their entry will take – written, film or photography.

YRS is something you can take forward in school and your pupils can continue to do independently beyond the school gates. Please share information in this slide with them so they can continue to develop their skills and interest if they wish.

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CfE EXPERIENCES & OUTCOMES



Curriculum for Excellence Experience & Outcomes:

Interdisciplinary Planner – Second, Third & Fourth Level

An overview of Curriculum for Excellence experiences and outcomes which Young Reporters Scotland can be targeted through the Broad General Education can be found in your YRS Teacher Resource on our website.

www.keepsotlandbeautiful.org/yrs



www.keepsotlandbeautiful.org



Please refer to our YRS Teacher Guide which is available to download from our website

www.keepsotlandbeautiful.org/yrs/resources