

Curriculum for Island's Sustainability

Module 3 Lesson Plan 1



Partner Organization: Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. School

Country: Netherlands

Thematic Pillar: Guest Speakers and Local Experts

Section	Content / Description
Date:	
Teaching Staff:	
Term / Week:	Term 2
Year Level:	Lower Secondary-10-14
Lesson Duration:	90 minutes
Key Learning Area:	• Climate Change • Youth Empowerment
Lesson Title:	Understanding Local Environmental Challenges
Topic / Focus:	Major environmental challenges in St. Maarten, with emphasis on coastal erosion, waste management, and hurricane-related impacts.
Learning Objectives:	• Identify at least three major environmental challenges faced by St. Maarten. • Explain how coastal erosion, waste management issues, and hurricanes impact the island's environment and communities. • Reflect on why environmental protection is important for the future of St. Maarten.
Teaching Outcomes:	• Students clearly describe coastal erosion, waste management problems, and hurricane impacts using examples from St. Maarten. • Students produce a short written, visual, or digital output summarizing the environmental challenges discussed. • Students actively participate in discussion with the guest speaker and teacher
Key Competences:	• Environmental Literacy • Digital Skills • Collaboration • Active Citizenship
Prerequisites:	• Basic understanding of what the environment is • Ability to listen, take notes, and participate in discussions



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Resources Needed:	• Digital: PowerPoint, projector, Internet • Physical: Worksheets, notebooks, pens/pencils • Multimedia: Guest speaker presentation, Photos or short video clips showing erosion, landfills, and hurricane damage in St. Maarten
Lesson Description:	This lesson helps students understand the most pressing environmental challenges affecting St. Maarten today. Through a guest speaker's presentation and guided classroom discussion, students explore how natural processes and human activities contribute to environmental problems and why addressing these challenges is essential for the island's sustainability.
Lesson Procedure:	
Phase	Duration
<i>Opening Introduction</i> /	10 min The teacher asks: "What environmental problems have you noticed in St. Maarten?" Brainstorm ideas on the board. Introduce the lesson focus.
<i>Introduction to New Material</i>	20 min Guest speaker presents on environmental challenges in St. Maarten, focusing on coastal erosion, waste management, and hurricane impacts. Students take notes using a worksheet.
<i>Guided Practice</i>	25 min Teacher-led discussion based on the presentation. Guiding questions help students explain each challenge in their own words. Clarify key concepts and local examples.
<i>Independent Practice</i>	25 min Students individually or in pairs create a short summary (poster, paragraph, or simple slide) explaining the three environmental challenges and their effects on the island.
<i>Closing & Reflection</i>	10 min Students share one thing they learned. Reflection question: "Why is it important to protect the environment in St. Maarten."
Effective Approaches:	• Experiential Learning • Place-based Learning • Youth-led Inquiry • Digital & Creative Tools
Assessment & Evaluation:	• Formative: Observation of student participation, responses during discussion, worksheet completion



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	• Summative: Student output assessed on accuracy, clarity, and understanding of the three environmental challenges • Student self-assessment: Short reflection on what they learned from the guest speaker
Inclusiveness & Adaptation:	• Allow students to explain ideas verbally or visually • Support students with vocabulary lists or sentence starters • Encourage respectful participation from all students • Adjust task complexity for mixed ability levels
Follow-up Activities:	• Research one environmental challenge in more detail • Invite students to propose one simple action that could help reduce the problem • Share student work on a classroom display • Connect outputs to the Islands Network Platform
Teacher Reflection:	• What went well? • What challenges emerged? • What will be improved next time?



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