Concreting the Countryside

Lesson 2: Where should all the concrete go? Lesson Plan

Theme/ Topic	Does Rackheath EcoTown provide the answers?
Learning	Students to:
Objectives	 appreciate that a range of possible solutions to the housing crisis exist appreciate that these solutions may not be sustainable. understand that the national policies can have serious local consequences understand that the perceived impacts can cause conflicts between different groups of people
Learning	Students to be able to argue in the context of plans to build an EcoTown at
Outcomes	 Rackheath, Norfolk Students to be aware that different people have different opinions as a result of their perceptions of the impacts of change on their own situations
Lesson Context	This lesson seeks to determine the place of EcoTowns in the government's strategies to build 3 million new homes by 2020, combat climate change and manage the countryside.
LEARNING AND T	FEACHING ACTIVITIES
Introduction	Use the introduction by Wayne Hemingway from EcoTowns focus (video clip Eco Towns Challenge Panel 2.33mins in length) and use selected sound-bites from Sir Peter Hall's talk (5mins to 5.25) and from Martin Crookston's talk (14.20 mins to 15.30 mins) for start of lesson to give some basis for the views. Display key aspects of EcoTown proposals as shown on the 21CC website Explain how a balloon debate works and distribute the personal briefs (Balloon Debate prompt sheets) to 5 individuals or 5 pairs. (The rest of the group have audience participation rights) These briefs include one sentence summing up the opinion they should adopt together with some national and local details, facts and sentiments. Set regional background — use information from the Introductory briefing/Background sheet on East Anglia containing East Anglian facts and figures (on the Fact sheet)
Main	Teacher to introduce Rackheath with a quick fact file/PowerPoint to set the scene Pupils who are to be in the balloon are to be given 7-10 minutes to familiarise themselves with the arguments. The rest of group read through 21CCwebsite details on EcoTowns and/or handout EcoTowns Q&A sheet to participate in the balloon debate as follows: 7-10 mins first round of views; Vote leaves 4 3 mins cross questions from rest of Group Vote leaves 3 3 mins cross questions PLUS add video tour of Staiths, Gateshead Vote leaves 2 3 mins cross Questions Vote leaves 1 = Winner



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Plenary	Each person needs to produce the following: A short overview of the individual arguments given in the first round/conflict matrix
	A ranked list of the arguments based on the order people were ejected An outline of the weaknesses in each argument/ reasons for ejection What they think about the final solution. How they might appeal against the
	final solution
Resources	Eco Towns Challenge Panel video clip (at bottom of web page) Sir Peter Hall video clip Martin Crookston video clip Eco towns 21CC website Personal briefs (Balloon Debate prompt sheets) Fact Sheet: East Anglia's burden and Rackheath fact file Rackheath PowerPoint EcoTowns Q&A sheet Video tour of Staiths, Gateshead
	Teachers Notes
Assessment opportunities	through strength and coherence of arguments, challenges and questioning each other
Key Skills	ability to reflect on their own learning by listening to others views and amending their own. Group work, empathising with different people and acquiring a critical approach to serious issues