



SUSTAINABLE TEACHING CURRICULUM
LESSON PLAN

Introduction to Wind Power

Primary Subjects- Science

Objectives:

- The students will learn how much potential energy wind has.

Materials:

- 3 fans (or experiment can be conducted outside if sufficient wind exists)
- 3 paper bags
- 6 feathers
- 3 rocks

Introduction to Lesson/ Anticipatory Set:

- “If you were to draw the wind how would you draw it?”
 - “Is wind visible?”
 - “Does it have a taste?”
 - “Does it have a smell?”
 - “Can you hear it?”
 - For the most part wind is virtually undetectable
 - The only way you can understand its affects is by studying what has been influenced by it
- Today we are going to observe wind.

Major instructional Sequence:

- Split the class into three groups
- Give each group:
 - A fan (or go outside if weather permits)
 - A paper bag
 - A rock
 - 2 feathers
- Have students put each object in front of the fan and let go
- Have students make observations about what happens to the different objects
- Within the groups have students discuss their observations
 - “How far did the objects go?”
 - “How high did the objects go?”
 - “Did the objects make any noise?” ... etc.

Concluding Sequence:

- “What does wind help move?”
 - Seeds are spread by the wind which allows flowers to grow in all different places
 - Birds “ride” the wind (use the wind to help them fly)
 - Kites stay afloat due to wind
 - Sail boats are propelled by the wind
- “Is wind strong?”
- “Do you think wind could power a house?”

Background:

Many students have never been exposed to the discussion of energy. In fact, many associate solely gas with energy. The goal of the lesson plan is to change this type of thinking. Renewable energy is a clean green energy source and it is essential to waning our country off fossil fuels. By showing the students how wind can move objects we begin to introduce them to the potential power wind has.

Vocabulary:

Potential energy- having the capacity to create power