

Globalization and Ecology – The other side of the coin

One of the major challenges facing us in the 21st-century is striking a balance between economy and ecology. As global warming, the gradual depletion of natural resources, and the loss of biodiversity threaten the existence of life on our planet, environmentalists are calling for a radical change in our attitudes.

To quantify the environmental impact of human activities, they have invented the term "carbon footprint": the larger the carbon footprint, the more a certain activity contributes to the greenhouse effect. Sustainability has become the keyword of the new century: the reduction of greenhouse gases, the implementation of renewable energy sources (e.g. solar and wind energy), and conservation of our natural resources have come to be regarded as essential for the survival of the human species. It remains to be seen whether science, having profoundly changed life on this planet, will successfully rise to the challenge of dealing with the consequences of our technical civilization.

PROJECT: Analyzing the potential of various alternative sources of energy



Your group specializes on one of the following:

1. **photovoltaic cells and solar power [a) and b)]**
2. **wind power [c)]**
3. **geothermic power [d)]**
4. **tidal power [e)]**
5. **biofuels [f)]**



In your group, choose the **format** of your project, e.g.: write a blog entry, make a vlog, record a radio report... .

→ **Your aim is to present your source as the alternative form of renewable energy that holds the greatest promise.**

Task schedule:

1. Go to www.cornelsen.de/context21/1.c.3281326.de
2. Click on the links according to your topic and assign (= *zuteilen*) each link to a group member
3. → *sometimes you need to assign a link to more than one person!*
4. Take notes on the most important information from your website.
5. Come together as a group again and exchange your results. [Do more research if necessary.]
6. Plan your project: which information do you want to add, at which point, ... → do you need extra time after school?
7. Present your project to the class.
8. Give feedback on each presentation.
9. Vote on the best project.

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