

CASE STUDY

WHAT IS POLLUTION?

The school used the activity on Tirlun but supplemented it with work on map scales and scaling, as well as looking at global issues through the lens of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

The learners worked through the first task - What do we mean by 'pollution'? and took a local bus to view Port Talbot Steel Works so that they could witness any pollution first hand.

They thoroughly enjoyed researching to make a whole class concept map to make others aware of pollution. They also did an assembly on their findings.

Learners walked around the local area to look for evidence of pollution in small groups. Locating these 'pollution places' enhanced their mapping skills and they did some work on scales on maps to assist those who had some difficulties. They produced a mind map of photos and text to show others of the types of pollution, pollutants and what could be causing the pollution in the local area.

Learners used the problem-solving process suggested to think about how one of the pollutants/pollution could be reduced. Because of the earlier visit, most learners chose a pollutant from Port Talbot Steel Works, which is due to close shortly. They collaborated well and were engaged with 'making a difference'.



Learners found the concept of light pollution fascinating – and spent much time investigating this locally and thinking about how it could be reduced.



Learners did some work on the SDGs, as the school is partnered with one in Patagonia and has been using the SDGs as a focus for the partnership, before looking at global pollution.

They extended learning as they were very interested in how they could minimise the waste produced in their homes and in school. Learners devised strategies for recycling and reusing and implemented them.