

# Science and the Environment

## ENERGY FOR LIFE

Are decisions taken by leaders of society based upon sound scientific understanding?

How are the sciences being used to protect the environment?

What impact is science making on your life and the lives of others?

Do you think the Earth's resources are being used responsibly?

How would YOU use your knowledge of science to help the environment?

**Produce a piece of work that addresses one or more of the above questions.**

### Some ideas to get you thinking

- What is **deforestation**? What causes it? What effect does it have on the number of species in that area?
- Research into a **rainforest**. What plants and animals can be found there? Is the maintenance of rainforests important?
- What is a **bio-dome**? What are scientists trying to achieve in a bio-dome? What are the advantages and disadvantages?
- Research and report on any **endangered organism** (plant or animal). What is the impact on the food chain if this organism became extinct?
- Investigate local areas. Is there a difference in the **distribution of plants**? Research the factors which can affect how plants grow. Describe possible reasons for any difference.
- Research a nearby ecosystem. What organisms live there? What effect would **introducing a new organism** have on the organisms already present? (You can choose any organism or create a new species!)
- Research any organism and describe how its **behaviour** helps it to survive.
- Research any organisms and describe how its structural **adaptations** help it to survive.
- Research a **medicinal plant** (foxglove, poppy, mandrake, rosy periwinkle) and explain the impact it has had on humans.
- Research laws introduced by the government that help **prevent extinction** of a species. Have these laws made any impact?
- Research laws introduced by the government that help **maintain biodiversity**. Have these laws made any impact?
- Research into a **real-life example** as reported on the news and report on the **impact** it has had. You may also use the following examples to help you:
  - Red and grey squirrels (competition)
  - China's eradication of sparrows (disturbing a food chain)
  - Lemurs being killed for bush-meat (endangered animals)

Poem

News

Story

Video

Brochure

PowerPoint

Radio programme

Experiment

Models

Poster