

Africa - Conservation in Madagascar

Balancing tourism and conservation in Madagascar

Video summary	Before watching the video	While watching
<p>The teenagers consider the pros and cons of tourism and whether Madagascar would be better off without tourists.</p> <p>Tourism is important to the economy of Madagascar, with visitors often making boat trips to see humpback whales. But the level of tourism is creating problems.</p> <p>The UK teenagers meet local people who sell souvenirs that help bring money into the local economy and create jobs for local people. They work alongside local people to make whale souvenirs and think about the link between a successful economy and conservation.</p> <p>Download/print a transcript of the video.</p>	<p>Locate Madagascar using maps of the world and of Africa.</p> <p>Discuss with students why tourism is important and why it can cause challenges. For example, they may consider that it creates employment; however, lots of tourists could create noise pollution and upset local wildlife. This could lead to a discussion about whether tourism should be allowed in conservation zones.</p> <p>Introduce key terms, such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conservation: the practice of protecting Earth's natural resources for the benefit of current and future generations. • Endangered: a species is at a high risk of extinction, or disappearing forever. • Tourism: travelling away from home for pleasure, for example a holiday. • Economy: how a country or place is doing in making goods, and how much money it has. 	<p>You may wish to stop at relevant points during the video to pose questions and check understanding, or wait until the end. Useful questions might include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Why do many tourists visit Madagascar? • How is tourism having an impact on the environment in Madagascar? • Why is tourism important to the people living in Madagascar? • Why are the souvenirs important? • What else could be done?
After watching		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The clip could be used to start a discussion for and against tourism in Madagascar. • Students could be encouraged to discuss wildlife regulations that govern tourism. How are animals affected by tourism? What is the consequence of increasing numbers of tourists? • In groups, students could agree a set of wildlife regulations that tourists should abide by. • Students can be asked to debate the impact of tourism on wildlife and the pros and cons of tourism in general. Are there any positives to tourism in Madagascar? Can the economy and conservation support each other? • In pairs, students can work to summarise different sides of the argument. • As a further activity, the class can be divided into groups to produce a TV advert (in storyboard form or as a short film), radio jingle or poster to persuade people to visit Madagascar in a way that supports the local economy in their efforts to protect the whales. <p><i>Curriculum notes:</i> <i>This clip is relevant for teaching Geography at KS3 in England and Northern Ireland, 3rd/4th Level in Scotland and Progression Step 4 in Wales.</i></p>		

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Where next?	Links
<p>Around the world there are rules and regulations governing tourism. An outstanding example of this is the Galapagos Islands in South America. If you visit the Galapagos Islands National Park there are a range of regulations to follow, which include remaining on visitor trails, taking all rubbish with you and staying at least two metres away from all wildlife.</p> <p>Research tourism in the Galapagos Islands. What are the similarities and differences between tourism in Madagascar and the Galapagos Islands?</p>	<p>Impacts of tourism: https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zcmfb9q/articles/znspn9q</p> <p>Changing patterns and nature of tourism: https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/guides/z2nnqty/revision/1</p> <p>Global tourism: https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/guides/zkgxsbk/revision/1</p> <p>Benefits and challenges of conservation: https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/guides/zsbn7p3/revision/6</p>