

Teachers' Worksheet: Protests and Demonstrations 1

Teachers' notes

This activity can be carried out after a visit to your local park. It can work in conjunction with other activities on the website. During the park visit children gather information to inform the debate. They will also get a feeling for the area and a sense of what takes place there and what it means to local people.

After the visit

Ask pupils' to imagine that your local park has been sold to greedy developers. They have bought the site so they can build luxury flats, which they will sell for huge profits. Tell the class that you are going to assign them to different groups. Some groups will be for the development and the others against it.

The debate

Print out and cut up the role cards on the next page. Assign a role card to each group.

Pupils spend 30 minutes preparing their argument. They can use ideas on the role cards and knowledge gained from their park visit.

Get pupils to present their ideas at the front of the class room. Questions and comments from other groups can be taken after the presentation. Teacher should chair the meeting.

Park Explorer

Role Cards

Eco warriors <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Must protect biodiversity (living things) in the park• Ancient trees• Green spaces important• There will be an increase in pollution if new homes are built	Local Families <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Dog walkers• Play areas• Safe for children to play• No where else to go
The Park Rangers <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Job losses• Flower beds	Local History Society <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Historical importance• Memories of local residents• Information lost for future generations
Developers <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Shortage of housing in the area• Potential for making money• Jobs and opportunities for local workers	Leisure users <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Good sports facilities• Free facilities• Health and well-being
Councillor <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Council needs the money to build a new school and improve the local environment.• There is a lot of litter in the area. Would like to employ street cleaners. Money from the sale of the park would help them to do this.	Youth Organisations <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Facilities for kids to play safely• Recreational equipment• Areas for bikes, skateboards etc.