

Homemade & Generic Resources

Some of the most useful ESDGC resources are not specially designed activity packs or games. There are many alternative (generic) resources which can be used to support ESDGC activities in different youth work settings. The list below is just a starting point - almost anything can be used as an ESDGC resource, use your imagination!

- Large world map (ideally Peter's Projection). You can buy laminated versions. You can also make useful map resources yourself (or together with a youth group). This is easily done by projecting a map image (found on the internet) on a large piece of material pinned to a wall, then tracing around the image and colouring in!

In addition to physical maps there are lots of good online mapping tools, e.g. Google Earth and UNHCR - www.unhcr.org/events/47f48dc92.html. Great tool for highlighting sea level rises, international flight paths and images of refugee camps and war torn areas at <http://earth.google.com/gallery/index.html>. Another online tool "Worldmapper" has maps focussing on a range of global themes - www.sasi.group.shef.ac.uk/worldmapper/index.html

- World festival / event calendar. Online versions available see www.earthcalendar.net/index.php. You can also buy laminated versions.
- Newspapers / magazines (current news stories can be a good way of introducing discussions / activities on ESDGC themes).
- Common objects such as food / clothes, mobile phones, or "mystery" objects that you can ask young people to guess their use / stimulate discussion. A good example of this are "Mooncups" - a planet conscious, reusable menstrual cup, alternative to tampons, collecting rather than absorbing menstrual fluid. It is healthier because it does not deposit bleach or pesticides in the body and doesn't produce sanitary waste (see www.mooncup.com).
- Pictures representing issues (e.g. pictures of environmental damage caused by plastic bags) are useful for stimulating discussion. These are available free on the internet. There are also great visual resources available to buy from "The Earth from the Air" project. They produce a set of cards with engaging images of the world created by amazing aerial photography. On the back of the card interesting facts and figures relating to the world today are given in a simple and accessible way. The cards are available at www.wecommunic8.com/education.html