

Ethical Consumerism

Ethical consumerism is the purchase of products that are perceived by the consumer to be made in an ethical manner, usually in reference to the lack of exploitation of humans, animals and the environment.

It includes positive buying of products and boycotting products for negative reasons.

- local food
- free range and organic meat
- cage-free eggs
- vegetarianism
- avoidance of clothes and shoes made in sweatshops
- animal-free testing of cosmetics
- green construction
- hybrid vehicles
- biodegradable products

Ecological Footprint

What is your ecological footprint?

How many planets would we need if everyone lived like you? An **ecological footprint** measures the total amount of land and resources used, it includes your **carbon footprint** but goes further. Find out your **ecological footprint** by answering questions about your lifestyle. See how your choices affect the environment and whether you are living beyond the capacity of the planet.

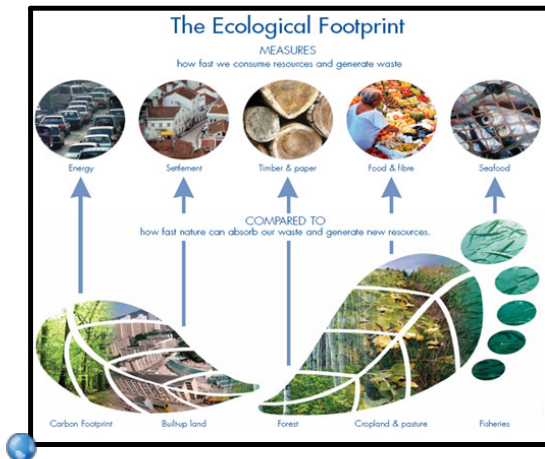
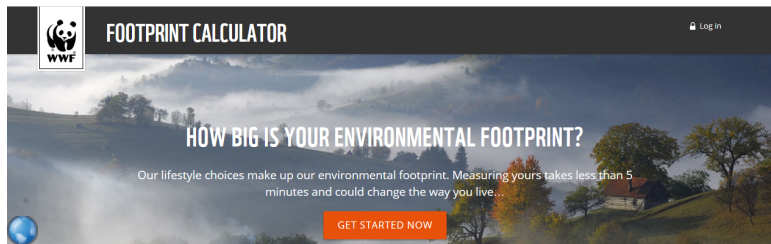
Ecological footprints allow people to visualize the impacts of their consumption patterns and activities on ecosystems.
→ measures the total amount of land and resources used

An average world citizen has ecological footprint equivalent to 2.3 hectares or 5.6 acres while the biologically productive land available is only 1.9 hectares per person.

The average resident of the United States lives at a consumption level that requires 9.7 hectares of bioproductive land. If everyone in the world adopted a North American lifestyle, we'd need about four more planets to support us all.



Ecological Footprint Quiz



REFLECTION/DISCUSSION

What ways can one reduce their own ecological footprint?

What part of my Footprint can I influence?

Some of each person's Ecological Footprint is dependent upon choices they make in their own life, such as how much they drive, recycle and purchase new products, and some of it is their per person share of their societies' infrastructure. The first part can be influenced directly. The second part is equally critical to living within the means of one planet, but must be influenced through more indirect action such as political engagement, green technology and innovation, and other work toward large-scale social change. For more information on these distinctions, [click here](#).



Ways to reduce your carbon footprint

Viewpoints

1. anthropocentric: human-centered

Humans are the center of the universe and nature exists for human benefit. Ex) Fracking will bring more jobs

2. biocentric: life-centered

Life is the center of the universe and humans are a separate yet equal part of nature. Ex) Law only catch and release salmon in hope to increase salmon population. (life of fish centered)

3. ecocentric: ecosystem-centered

Living and non-living parts of a particular area are equally important. Ex) Wild-life Preservation Ltd. have a number of projects designed to improve the habitat of the puffin

HOMework

<http://www.footprintnetwork.org/en/index.php/GFN/page/calculators/>
• *5 EcoPoints...do your own - pass in!

Attachments

Carbon_footprint_quispam_site.pdf