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Students' Report Group 1

on E-learning and Flipped Classroom Activities (IO4)

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Specific in-depth topic of own home study and why this topic has been chosen (at least 200 characters)

Studied topics for discussion:

What are the problems water scarcity poses?

Some of them are: declining available water sources, global climate change altering precipitation and evaporation patterns (causing the dry areas to be even dryer), water availability is less predictable etc.

What is soil sealing?

Soil sealing is destruction or covering of the ground by an impermeable material. It often affects fertile agricultural land, puts biodiversity at risk and contributes to global warming.

Can water pollution be fixed?

Yes, it can be fixed – we can reduce and prevent water pollution in many ways.

How can we as individuals help reduce pollution?

We can reduce the number of trips we take by car, and switch to using public transport or biking instead. We can mulch or compost leaves and yard waste, reuse non-degradable products, sort trash into separate bins. To help reduce water pollution, we can use the minimum amount of detergent or bleach when we are washing clothes or dishes, and make sure those soaps are phosphate free. Minimising the use of pesticides, herbicides and fertilisers can also help, but only while not disposing of them or other chemicals and automotive fuels into

the sanitary or storm sewer systems.

What are the indicators of polluted water?
(Different color, smell, taste and concentration of hydrogen ions.)

Does plastic degrade better in soil or in water?
(Plastic degrades better in soil than in water. Soil – 10 – 450 years to fully decompose. Water – 450 – 1000 years.)

Ted talk topic: Companies and organizations that are making a change

Comment about the activity done at home (at least 300 characters)

We got to learn about soil and water problems from four masterclasses. We had two options to learn from: masterclass videos and e–library. It was interesting to learn through video classes and hear from experts about everyday problems about soil and water. On the other hand, the e – library was for students that prefer reading as a way of learning. Tests after masterclasses were a great way to see how much we remembered from them. The results on the final test were indicators of how much we have learned throughout the whole e–learning process. Activities done at home encouraged us to be more conscious about soil and water problems and maybe find a solution.

Comment about the interactive activity in the classroom (at least 400 characters)

During discussions in class, we got to see the same problems from different perspectives and get more information to better form our opinions. There was a distinguishable difference in questions and answers of pupils that grew up in different cities. A couple of students decided to do TED talks and bring water and soil pollution closer to us. We were shown serious topics in an interesting way that was adapted to our abilities and knowledge. Our peers presented real life examples of soil and water problems and helped us see how important and urgent it is to try and fix these issues.