

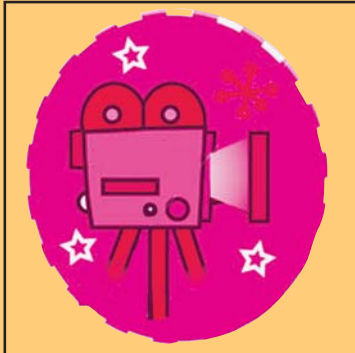
August 2007

GobarTimes

Green Schools Network

ACTIVITY SHEET

Why talk about



films/television series?

Because its fun to watch them and they have an impact on us. We listen to the music of these films and imitate what is happening in films. But while there are enough films/serials on aliens, humans, animals and their emotions, there aren't many on the environment.

Similarly, there are numerous television channels like Discovery and National Geographic, which have serials on nature, but rarely about environment.

If we see a film on an environmental issue, wont we listen to the music of the film or try and imitate the sustainable living described. Surely we would? But where are these films?

This time lets try and find some movies/serials on environment. What's more, lets try to overcome this crisis and try n make a film on our environmental concerns.

Name.....

School Name

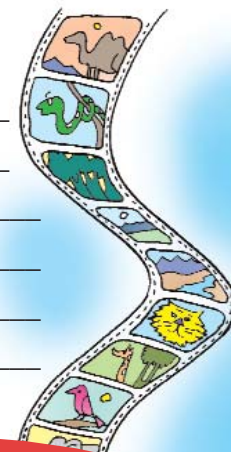
Class..... Date.....

Gobar Gyan: A film on environment does not necessarily have to be a documentary made by a serious filmmaker. Even some of our commercial films may contain an environmental message. 'Happy Feet' is an animation film about a Penguin in Antarctica who ventures out of his colony to find the reason for shortage of fish in the sea. The film is about his adventurous journey. Aliens are often the 'bad guys' in Hollywood films. Here, human beings are made to play the role, as they fish excessively leading to a shortage. Its an enjoyable film with an environmental message.

Activity: Visit a few video libraries in your area and find out from the attendant, if s/he has any videos specifically on environment. If yes, get the movie and write a short description of at least one movie here. What you liked, what you didn't.

Name of the Movie	Environmental issue
1. _____	_____
2. _____	_____
3. _____	_____
4. _____	_____

Description of one film:



WATCHING ENVIRONMENT WAS NEVER SO FRIENDLY!



Hi! I am Pandit Gobar Ganesh. You will find me in Gobar Times—a magazine that tells you how your everyday life is linked to the world around you. Hooked, huh? If you want to know more about me and GobarTimes visit us at www.gobartimes.org



Also visit a local NGO and find out if they have produced any films on environment.

If you have an interesting list of movies with you, then talk to your school management about doing an 'environmental film festival'. It can be great fun and you can even call students from nearby schools for the event. You can add 'Ozzy Ozone' and 'Inconvenient Truth' to your list of films for the film festival. Centre for Science and Environment, New Delhi provides a lot of interesting movies on environment. You can contact CSE at the address mentioned at the end.



Activity: What's up on television? As you surf through various television channels, find out if there are any serials on environment? Pick up the newspaper and find out when such programmes are aired. Have a class discussion and prepare a schedule of all such programmes. Put it up on the notice board for everyone to know. List down the names of at least five serials, which talk about environmental issues:

Name of the serial	Television Channel	Day/Time
1. _____	_____	_____
2. _____	_____	_____
3. _____	_____	_____
4. _____	_____	_____
5. _____	_____	_____

Gobar Gyan: 'Listen, the nature is crying here'

Children from a small government school in Modinand viilage, Sirmaur district, Himachal Pradesh, have tried their hand at film making. They have portrayed the damage that is being done to the hill environment by un-planned industrialisation.

Directed and edited by the children themselves, the film talks about the destruction of forests and 'unscientific mining' of mountains. The film unveils some chilling facts about the impact of overexploitation of natural resources and the rising pollution levels. Sanjeev Attri, a science teacher working at the school, motivated the students to take up this project of making a movie named 'Listen, the nature is crying here'.



Activity: Make a movie

If your school has a photography or movie club. Rope in its members to make a movie for your eco-club. But before you go about it- you need to make a step by step plan:

What are you going to make the movie on?

Instead of making a movie about environmental issues concerning the globe, its best to start with a local issue concerning all the members of the eco-club or the neighbourhood. The benefit of choosing a local issue is that you have something to shoot. You obviously can't go to the mountains to shoot a movie on receding glaciers due to global warming. Instead if you choose to make a film on littering in the locality or children not switching off lights, you can take the camera around to shoot some clips. Have a meeting of your eco-club and choose an issue. Write down the issues

discussed:

Issues discussed

- | | |
|----------|----------|
| 1. _____ | 2. _____ |
| 3. _____ | 4. _____ |

Issue finalized for the film: _____

Reasons to choose the above issue: _____

Where would the money come from? – budgeting

Its crucial to make a budget for the film – getting a camera/person, editing, travel would require money. You can ask you school to give some money. Friends can also pool in some money. If the school’s club has a video camera, its fine, otherwise hire it. You can also ask some friend for a camera. What’s your budget, write here:

School’s contribution: Rs. _____

Friend’s contribution: Rs. _____

Expenditure for Camera/ rolls: Rs _____

Write a script?

Write a tentative plan on how you want the film to flow – what would be its story- narrative? At least you should be clear from where you are starting them movie and how you would take the audience to the logical end. How would a topic be introduced to the audience? All these questions would become clear once, you have a clear script. Try and write a short and sweet script for a 10 minute movie to start of with.

Try and interview a film maker, who can brief you about writing a script. Ask him/her about his/her inspiration for the film. If it is not possible to meet someone, try and contact someone over phone or e-mail.

Once you have made the plan, put it neatly in a file and after discussions with your lead teacher, present it to your principal.

Shoot it

Shoot the film, add some interviews of people involved. If you are making a film on how schools can help in energy conservation, try and shoot interviews with some teachers, students and may be an official from the electricity department. Also give a small shot to your principal for her take on the matter. Try and balance your film with positive and negative episodes.

Whom are you going to interview for the film?

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

Your film should not only talk about problems, it must give some solutions as well.

Edit it

Locate a studio in town, which would be ready to edit your film.Sit with the editors and edit the relevant stuff to give the final touches to your movie. One may require some expert help for this. It would be a bit irritating but its worth it. One may also wish to give it some background music at places.

Present your film at the school environment film festival. Wish you best of luck.

By the way dont forget to name the movie or else how else would it be nominated for the Oscars?



If you found the activity sheet interesting, E-mail us at eeu@cseindia.org or write to:
Activity Sheet, Centre for Science and Environment, 41 Tughlakabad Institutional Area,
New Delhi-110062 or Call 29955124 Extension 219