

Issue tree

You will need:

- one large sheet of paper per group of pupils. Flip chart size is ideal.
- pens

Draw a tree on a large sheet of paper or ask pupils to do this. Write the issue on the trunk of the tree, for example, 'trees are being cut down', 'there is too much deforestation' or 'rainforest animals are losing their homes'. The issue needs to be a statement, not a question.

Pupils write the causes of the issue in the roots of the tree. They write the consequences of these in the branches, and finally draw fruit hanging from the tree containing solutions.

How to use an issue tree

This can all be done at the same time, or there can be time between the causes, consequences and fruit, allowing for more learning.

Pupils could fill in the tree with as much detail as they can at the beginning of the topic, and again in another colour at the end, making it easy to see what they have learned.

