



**London Now London Future**  
Teachers' resource pack

# LONDON NOW LONDON FUTURE

## **Introduction to the London Now London Future film**

A lesson starter

This film is all about London's urbanisation. It explores how London grew into the world city it is today, the impact of being a world city and the initiatives that are making it a sustainable place to live and work.

The film has been separated into three sections to support your classroom teaching. We have created suggested activities to complete with your class before and after each section.

This teachers' resource has been separated into four areas:

1. Facts about London's urbanisation
2. How London grew [0-01.11]
3. What is pushing London to be unsustainable? [01.11-03.08]
4. London's new initiatives [03.08-05.33]



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# Facts about London's urbanisation

A lesson starter



To start your class thinking about London as an urban and world city we have provided some (true) facts about London below. We suggest before watching the film you ask your students true or false questions giving them opportunities to reason with each other and discuss their answers.

- Every year 9% of London's population arrives whilst 7% leaves
- More than 1 in 3 of London's population was born outside the UK
- 48% of London households own their home outright or with a mortgage – the lowest percentage in England and Wales
- 42% of London households do not own a car
- People in London walk on average for 38 minutes daily (the national average is 47)
- London's first co-housing scheme, Copper Lane, was completed in 2014, more than 40 years after the first co-housing community was built near Copenhagen
- Every London borough has recorded illegally high pollution levels in the last two years
- 4.4 billion litres of sewage are processed every day across London and the Thames Valley
- There are 51,99 people per sq. km in London (the average for England and Wales is 371)
- In a year, almost 1.35 billion passenger journeys are made on the Tube
- Only 18% of the working population commute into London from outside for work, this is around 800,000 people



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# How London grew

## Suggested activity

After watching the 'How London grew' section of the film [0-01.11] ask your students to match the below timeline of dates and events.

For high achievers add contextual information and include those in the timeline too.

Date(s)	Event
1760–1840	Industrial Revolution
1836-38	The first passenger railway was opened in London
1851	The Great Exhibition
1863	Opening of the Metropolitan Railway (London's first underground line)
1948	The SS Empire Windrush docked in Tilbury
1965	The creation of the London Boroughs and Greater London
1986	Opening of the M25
1987	Opening of the DLR (Docklands Light Railway)
1991	The first office buildings were opened in Canary Wharf



# What is pushing London to be unsustainable?

## Suggested activity

The next section of the film considers five important factors happening in London as a reaction to it being a world city. We chose to focus on the following:

- energy consumption
- air pollution
- traffic congestion
- housing
- waste management.

We suggest you complete a diamond ranking exercise with your class around these different topics. You'll need to include other London topics too. We've suggested a few more that do not appear in the video:

- migration
- cultural diversity
- tourism
- employment
- technology
- leisure activities
- transportation
- homelessness.

Create a discussion in groups or pairs and get them to assess each topic and justify their reasoning. The topics could be arranged in order of:

- importance
- cost
- environmental impact
- initial reactions from your students on those that are having the biggest impact
- the longevity of the problem.

You could take a photograph in between each discussion to track the changes of the diamond ranking and compare it later. There is space on the cards for your students to write notes from the film, if you would like them too.



# What is pushing London to be unsustainable?

Suggested activity

London's housing

Waste management

Energy consumption

Traffic congestion

Air pollution



## London's new initiatives

### Suggested activity



Before watching the final section of the film ask your students to suggest their own ideas of how London's problems can be improved. We suggest they could do this in two separate lists, one for bottom up examples and one for top down examples.

Ask your students if there is anything they can do which could help address their London issue? If they choose one of the five topics from the video they'll get the current initiatives happening in London, and can build case studies to share in a later discussion.

**Topic:** Traffic congestion

**Bottom up examples**

**Top down examples**



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## London's sustainable initiatives

We've researched 25 initiatives across London that you can share with your students. You could prepare resources based on the below list.

### **CARAS**

CARAS is a community outreach charity based in Tooting, supporting people of refugee and asylum-seeking background who live in South-West London.

[caras.org.uk](http://caras.org.uk)

### **Centre for sustainable fashion**

Centre for Sustainable Fashion (CSF) is a Research Centre of the University of the Arts London based at London College of Fashion. Our work explores vital elements of Better Lives, London College of Fashion's commitment to using fashion to drive change, build a sustainable future and improve the way we live.

[sustainable-fashion.com](http://sustainable-fashion.com)

### **Citizen Sense**

An organisation investigating environmental sensing technologies and citizen engagement.

[citizensense.net](http://citizensense.net)

### **Copper Lane**

London's first co-housing scheme which consists of six homes. The architecture supports an 'intentional' community and, with its shared facilities, heralds radical changes in the urban home.

[hhbr.co.uk/work/copper-lane](http://hhbr.co.uk/work/copper-lane)

### **Food cycle**

An organisation that serves community meals supporting people who are hungry and lonely.

[foodcycle.org.uk](http://foodcycle.org.uk)

### **Freecycle**

Freecycle is a bottom up movement of people giving (and getting) things for free in their local area.

[freecycle.org](http://freecycle.org)

### **Good Gym**

A community of runners that combines getting fit with doing good.

[goodgym.org](http://goodgym.org)

### **Growing Communities**

An organisation transforming an ex-council nursery into a thriving growing and learning site.

[growingcommunities.org](http://growingcommunities.org)

[dagenham-farm](http://dagenham-farm)

### **Grow Up Urban Farms**

GrowUp Urban Farms is committed to feeding people in cities in a way that is positive for communities and the environment, today and in the future. They produce sustainable fresh fish, salads and herbs in cities using a combination of aquaponic and vertical growing technologies.

[growup.org.uk](http://growup.org.uk)

### **Guerrilla Gardening**

A blog started in 2004 tracking cultivation and the growing of plants in unusual places across London.

[guerrillagardening.org](http://guerrillagardening.org)

### **Hanwell and Norwood Green orchard trail**

A local community project to plant and care for a trail of publicly accessible community orchards in the Grand Union Canal corridor in Hanwell and surroundings.

[orchardtrail.wordpress.com](http://orchardtrail.wordpress.com)

### **£Kingston pound**

A local currency in Kingston-upon-Thames to support small businesses on the high streets.

[kingstonpound.org](http://kingstonpound.org)

### **London Cycling Campaign**

A charity that strives to build a city that encourages Londoners to cycle, creating a healthier and happier place for everyone.

[lcc.org.uk](http://lcc.org.uk)

### **Living Streets**

Living Streets is the UK charity for everyday walking.

[livingstreets.org.uk](http://livingstreets.org.uk)

### **Open Data Camden**

Open Data Camden is the place for public, researchers and developers to access, analyse and share information about the borough.

[opendata.camden.gov.uk](http://opendata.camden.gov.uk)

### **OrganicLea**

A community food project based in the Lea Valley in north-east London. They produce and distribute food and plants locally, and inspire and support others to do the same.

[organiclea.org.uk](http://organiclea.org.uk)

### **Playscape**

Adobe Village is Earth Domes linked together by archways and curved walling to provide the backdrop for creative outdoor learning and role play. It is positioned at a school on the Heathrow flight path and has reduced noise at the school by 84%.

[small-earth.com/earth-domes/adobe-village](http://small-earth.com/earth-domes/adobe-village)

### **Repowering London**

Repowering London specialises in co-producing community energy programmes with community groups and Local Authorities. They support communities to deliver, own and manage renewable energy projects that provide benefits to the citizens that surround them.

[repowering.org.uk](http://repowering.org.uk)

### **Safer London**

An organisation working with young people that believe every young person should be given the opportunity to live free from exposure to gangs, exploitation and crime.

[saferlondon.org.uk](http://saferlondon.org.uk)



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All web links correct as of September 2017

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London's sustainable initiatives

## Warren Footpath Lighting Project

The Warren Footpath alongside the River Thames has received funding to improve the lighting to the benefit of bats, pedestrians and cyclists through using motion sensor lighting.

<http://thames-landscape-strategy.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2014/02/Warren-Footpath-Paper-2009.pdf>

## Wayfindr

Wayfindr is a non-profit organisation that has created an app based on audio guidance supporting blind and partially sighted people to use the underground network.

[www.wayfindr.net/](http://www.wayfindr.net/)

## Y:Cube

Y:Cube is a new housing solution in Mitcham designed to provide self-contained and affordable start accommodation for people who are unable to either gain a first step on the housing ladder or pay the high costs of private rent.

[www.ymcalsw.org/ycube/](http://www.ymcalsw.org/ycube/)

## YouChoose

Redbridge council gives its residents the opportunity to suggest where money can be saved and what initiatives are priorities. This is their response to being asked to save £25 million in their budget.

<https://youchoose.esd.org.uk/redbridge>



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