

 **Activity 1: Building Context & Vocabulary**

**Learning Intention:**

Understand environmental responsibility and build topic-specific vocabulary.

**Activities:**

**1 Discussion:**

- What does “environment” mean? What does “responsibility” mean?

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- Why should we care about the environment?

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**2 Reading Activity:**

**Reading Text 1 (Simple Expository):**

**Title:** *Why We Should Care for the Environment*

The environment is the world around us. It includes the air we breathe, the water we drink, and the animals and plants we share the Earth with. When we pollute the environment, we harm ourselves and all living things. Everyone can help by recycling, using less water, and picking up litter. Taking care of the environment is important because it keeps our world healthy for us and for future generations.

**Comprehension Questions:**


- What does the word “environment” mean?

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- Name two ways people can help the environment.

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 Why is taking care of the environment important?

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 What happens if we pollute the environment?

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### Vocabulary:

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### Environmental Responsibility Vocabulary

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#### Recycle


 **Definition:** To take used materials and turn them into something new.

- **Noun:** recycling
- **Verb:** recycle
- **Adjective:** recyclable

 **Your sentence:** \_\_\_\_\_

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#### Pollution


 **Definition:** Dirty or harmful materials in the air, water, or land.

- **Noun:** pollution, pollutant
- **Verb:** pollute
- **Adjective:** polluted, polluting


 **Your sentence:** \_\_\_\_\_

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### **3 Protect**

 **Definition:** To keep something safe from harm or damage.

- **Noun:** protection, protector
- **Verb:** protect
- **Adjective:** protective, protected

 **Your sentence:** \_\_\_\_\_

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### **4 Responsibility**

 **Definition:** A duty to do something or take care of something.


- **Noun:** responsibility, responsibilities
- **Verb:** (no direct verb, use “to be responsible”)
- **Adjective:** responsible

 **Your sentence:** \_\_\_\_\_

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### **5 Waste**

 **Definition:** Things that are not needed and are thrown away.


- **Noun:** waste
- **Verb:** waste
- **Adjective:** wasteful, wasted

 **Your sentence:** \_\_\_\_\_


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## 6 Reduce

 **Definition:** To make something smaller in amount or use less.


- **Noun:** reduction
- **Verb:** reduce
- **Adjective:** reduced, reducing

 **Your sentence:** \_\_\_\_\_

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## 7 Reuse

 **Definition:** To use something again instead of throwing it away.


- **Noun:** reuse, reusability
- **Verb:** reuse
- **Adjective:** reusable

 **Your sentence:** \_\_\_\_\_

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## 8 Nature

 **Definition:** The world of plants, animals, air, water, and land around us.


- **Noun:** nature
- **Verb:** (no verb)
- **Adjective:** natural

 **Your sentence:** \_\_\_\_\_


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 **Wildlife**

 **Definition:** Animals, birds, and other living things that live in nature without human help.

- **Noun:** wildlife
- **Verb:** (no verb)
- **Adjective:** wild

 **Your sentence:** \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

## Activity 2: Reading Persuasive Texts

### Learning Intention:

Identify features of persuasive texts and understand how arguments are made.

### Activities:

#### 1 Read Aloud – Persuasive Text Sample

#### Reading Text 2 (Persuasive):

**Title:** *We All Have a Role to Play*


Do you want to live in a world full of rubbish and dirty water? Of course not! Everyone must help care for the environment because we all share this planet. When we recycle, save water, and plant trees, we protect the world for animals and ourselves. Imagine if everyone threw rubbish everywhere – our parks and beaches would be covered in trash. We can all make a difference, one small action at a time. It is our duty to protect our beautiful Earth.

#### Comprehension Questions:

-  What is the author trying to convince us to do?


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-  Identify one rhetorical question in the text.


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-  What examples does the author give for helping the environment?

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-  Why does the author think it is important for everyone to help?

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### **Activity 3: Persuasive Devices**

#### **Learning Intention:**

Learn and practise using persuasive devices.

#### **Activities:**

##### **Spot the Device:**

**1** “Do you want to live in a world covered in rubbish?”

 Device: \_\_\_\_\_

**2** “We must act now to protect our beautiful planet.”

 Device: \_\_\_\_\_

**3** “Australians throw away over 500 kilograms of waste per person every year.”

 Device: \_\_\_\_\_

**4** “Protecting the environment is not a choice, it is a duty.”

 Device: \_\_\_\_\_

**5** “Imagine the beaches without plastic bags and bottles.”

 Device: \_\_\_\_\_

**6** “Pollution destroys the homes of precious animals.”

 Device: \_\_\_\_\_

**7** “We can. We must. We will.”

 Device: \_\_\_\_\_

**8** “If we all reuse and recycle, we can save nature together.”

 Device: \_\_\_\_\_

**9** “Shouldn’t we all care about the world we live in?”

 Device: \_\_\_\_\_

**10** “Every single person has the power to make a difference.”

 Device: \_\_\_\_\_

**2 Device Practice:**

Students write:

- One rhetorical question about the environment.
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- One sentence using emotive language.
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- One sentence using a high modality word.
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**3 Reading Activity: Short Fact Text**

**Reading Text 3 (Fact Text):**

**Title:** *Fast Facts about Waste*

- Australians produce about 540 kg of waste per person every year.
- Recycling one plastic bottle saves enough energy to power a computer for 25 minutes.
- Plastic waste in the ocean can harm sea animals like turtles and fish.

**Comprehension Questions:**

How much waste does each Australian produce per year?

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What happens when we recycle a plastic bottle?

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How does plastic waste affect sea animals?

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**Discussion:** “How can we use these facts in our writing?”

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## **Activity 4: Planning Arguments**

### **Learning Intention:**

Plan persuasive arguments using PEEL.

### **Activities:**

#### **1 Revisit the Focus Question:**

“Everyone is responsible for the environment. Do you agree?”

#### **2 Position Choice:**

Students decide if they agree, disagree, or partially agree.

#### **3 Group Brainstorm:**

- Why should everyone be responsible?
- What actions can individuals take?

#### **4 PEEL Planning:**

Use the printable scaffold:

P (Point):

E (Evidence/Example):

E (Explain):

L (Link):

#### **Example (Model):**

P: Everyone must care for the environment.

E: For example, littering pollutes oceans and harms animals.

E: This shows how even one person’s actions can cause harm.

L: Therefore, we all need to take responsibility.

## **Activity 5: Structuring Persuasive Texts**

### **Learning Intention:**

Organise a persuasive response using introduction, body paragraphs, and conclusion.

### **Activities:**

#### **1 Analyse Structure:**

- Introduction (hook + position)
- Body Paragraphs (PEEL)
- Conclusion (restate + call to action)

#### **2 Jumbled Paragraph Activity:**

### **Sentences:**

1. Everyone should help protect the environment.
2. Pollution harms our land and water.
3. We can help by recycling and picking up litter.
4. If we all work together, we can make the world cleaner.

**Task:** Students reorder these into a logical paragraph.

#### **3 Group Introduction Writing:**

“Imagine a world where beaches are covered in rubbish and animals are suffering. Everyone has a responsibility to protect the environment because it is our home.”

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## **Activity 6: Writing Draft**

### **Learning Intention:**

Compose a persuasive response using structure and persuasive devices.

### **Activities:**

#### **1 Recap Structure & Devices.**

#### **2 Draft Writing:**

Using the PEEL scaffold, students write:

- An introduction
  - Two PEEL body paragraphs
  - A conclusion
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## **Activity 7: Editing & Publishing**

### **Learning Intention:**

Edit writing to improve clarity, structure, and persuasive strength.

### **Activities:**

#### **1 Use the Editing Checklist:**

- Introduction states position
- Persuasive devices used
- Clear structure
- Correct spelling and punctuation
- Conclusion restates position and calls to action

#### **2 Students edit individually and with tutor support.**

#### **3 Students write or type final copies for display in their folder.**

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## **Activity 8 (Optional): Oral Presentation**

### **Learning Intention:**

Present a persuasive argument confidently.

### **Activities:**

- Students write a 1-minute speech using their persuasive response.
  - Practise reading with expression and emphasis on persuasive words.
  - Present to the tutor or small group.
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## **Additional Reading Text: Inspirational Example**

### **Reading Text 4 (Persuasive Speech Excerpt):**

**Title:** *Our Earth Needs Us*

Have you ever seen rubbish floating in the ocean or animals hurt by plastic? This is happening because people are not taking care of the environment. We all live on Earth, so we all must protect it. If we each recycle, save water, and reduce waste, we can make our world a better place. Don't wait for someone else to fix the problem – be the change!

### **Comprehension Questions:**

- What problem is described in the text?
  - What does the author ask people to do?
  - What persuasive words or phrases can you find?
  - What is the author's call to action?
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### Mini Assessment Rubric

<b>Criteria</b>	<b>Excellent</b>	<b>Sound</b>	<b>Developing</b>
<b>Structure</b>	Clear intro, structured PEEL paragraphs, strong conclusion	Mostly structured	Limited structure
<b>Persuasive Devices</b>	Strong, varied use	Some use	Minimal use
<b>Content Relevance</b>	Relevant, clear arguments	Mostly clear	Limited clarity
<b>Language &amp; Expression</b>	Clear, engaging	Mostly clear	Needs development
<b>Conventions</b>	Accurate punctuation and spelling	Few errors	Frequent errors

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Further reading:

## Blogs

### **Islam and the Environment: 6 Qur'an and Sunnah Climate Lessons**

- Posted on May 4, 2025

<https://childrensaid.co.uk/blogs/islam-and-the-environment/>

In this time when the climate crisis is threatening the very equilibrium of life on the planet, one has to turn back to sources of eternal knowledge. **Islam and the environment** have been intertwined — well before climate change had become a global concern. The Qur'an, the practice of the Prophet Muhammad (PBUH), and the Islamic principle of stewardship (khalifah) offer guidance on conservation of nature, conservation of resources, and living in harmony with the rest of Allah's creation. Sustainability in Islam, environmentalism, and responsibility to the earth are deeply established principles in the Islamic tradition.

In this article, we will find 6 firm climate lessons in the Qur'an and Sunnah that show Islam's commitment to environmental ethics and care for nature.

#### 1. Human Beings Are Stewards (Khalifah) of the Earth

In Islam, we are not the world's masters —we're trustees (khalifah) who have to look after and take care of the Earth. That is at the core of Islam and nature, and that reminds us we're here to keep the natural world in order, not dominate it.

“It is He who has made you successors upon the earth.”

[Surah Fatir 35:39]

This verse is a powerful reminder that Islamic environmental stewardship is not merely advisable — it is a divine trust. We are, in the Islamic worldview of nature, responsible for how we treat the Earth, its systems, and its resources. Any conservation effort is an act of submission to Allah and recognition of our position as His deputies on the Earth.

#### 2. Wastefulness Is Forbidden—Even with Water

Prophet Muhammad ﷺ forbade wastage even in worship. When he saw a companion splashing too much water while washing, he told him,

“Do not waste water, even if you are at a flowing river.”

[Ibn Majah, 419]

This hadith seriously forbids excessive consumption, one of the reasons for the current environmental disaster. Conservation of water, energy, and resources is obeying Allah's command.

### 3. Corruption on Earth Includes Environmental Destruction

Degradation of the environment is a corollary to moral decadence in Islam and the environment. Quoting the Qur'an:

“Corruption has appeared on land and sea because of what people's hands have earned.”

[Surah Ar-Rum 30:41]

This ayah reflects how pollution, deforestation, and global warming are all human-induced. Islamic environmental ethics remind one that damaging the Earth is not only an ecological issue but a moral issue as well. We are prompted to consider how our actions unbalance nature and discover ways to restore the balance.

Pro Tip:

In Islamic environmental ethics, preventing harm to the planet is a shared responsibility, and any action, no matter how slight, of saving waste or contributing to conservation may be a way of satisfying that responsibility.

### 4. Planting Trees is a Form of Charity (Sadaqah)

One of the most beautiful examples in the Sunnah is planting trees:

“If a Muslim plants a tree or seeds, and a bird, a human being, or an animal eats from it, then it is charity (sadaqah) for him.”

[Sahih al-Bukhari 2320]

This hadith confirms that maintaining biodiversity and having green areas is not only good for the environment — it's an act that can be rewarded in Islam.

### 5. Being Merciful to Animals and All Creatures

In Islam and society, mercy to animals is regarded as an indicator of taqwa (God-consciousness). Prophet Muhammad ﷺ enjoyed individuals who were kind to animals and denounced individuals who were cruel to them. He said,

“Whoever is kind to the creatures of God is kind to himself.”

[Sahih al-Bukhari]

This lesson compels Muslims to be compassionate towards all animals since they help maintain balance in nature. It reminds us that animal rights in Islam are but a subset of the entire responsibility to save and protect the environment.

## 6. Be Sustainable—Even In Crisis

Sustainability is encouraged in Islam and the environment even in the most dire of circumstances. The Prophet Muhammad ﷺ taught us to:

“If the Final Hour finds you and you have a palm cutting in your hand, and you can plant it before the Hour arrives, then plant it.”

[Musnad Ahmad 12902]

This hadith is a call to positive action and hope in the face of crisis. It teaches us that every second sustainable action, like planting a tree, matters and makes the Earth flourish, demonstrating that Islamic teaching regarding the care of the environment is ageless.

### **Pro Tip:**

To do something sustainable — however small — encourages a culture of responsibility and care, which aligns with our responsibility to save the Earth for generations to come.

### Final Thoughts: Faith Meets Action

In **Islam and the environment**, protecting nature is not only a duty but also an act of worship. The [Qur'an and Sunnah](#) teach us, from saving resources to being kind to animals, how to live sustainably. We Muslims are the guardians of the Earth, and our deeds will prove our piety. By following these teachings, we can reach environmental as well as spiritual gain. Let us restore the green message of Islam in small steps towards sustainability. Along with all the non-Muslim friends, we can together save the world and fulfill our shared work for Allah.

What are you doing to live sustainably according to Islamic values? Share with us in the comments below!.

 **Comprehension Questions**

**Multiple Choice:**

1. According to Islam, who gave humans the responsibility to care for the Earth?
    - a) The government
    - b) Allah
    - c) The Prophet's companions
  2. What is one example of a small action that can help the environment?
    - a) Wasting water while making wudu
    - b) Planting a tree
    - c) Throwing rubbish on the ground
  3. In Islam, harming the environment is seen as:
    - a) A sign of strength
    - b) A small mistake
    - c) A moral and spiritual issue
  4. What does the hadith about planting a tree before the world ends teach us?
    - a) That planting trees is useless
    - b) That small good actions matter
    - c) That we should only plant trees during good times
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**Short Answer:**

5. What does the Qur'an say about humans being "successors upon the Earth"? What does this mean for Muslims?

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6. Why does Islam teach not to waste water, even when it is plentiful?

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7. Give one example of how pollution can harm the environment and animals.

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8. What is the Islamic teaching about mercy towards animals, and why is it important?

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9. How can planting trees be an act of charity (sadaqah) in Islam?

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10. List three small actions you can do at home to care for the environment as a Muslim.

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**True or False:**

11. Muslims are allowed to waste water while making wudu because it is a religious act. \_\_\_\_\_

12. Being kind to animals is a sign of taqwa (God-consciousness). \_\_\_\_\_

13. In Islam, humans should dominate nature for their benefit only. \_\_\_\_\_

14. Islam teaches that all actions to protect the environment are also acts of worship. \_\_\_\_\_

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**Discussion Prompts:**

15. Why do you think Islam teaches Muslims to protect the environment even during difficult times?

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16. How can you explain to a friend why caring for the environment is important in Islam?

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17. What are some challenges Muslims might face in protecting the environment, and how can they overcome them?

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18. Why is it important for Muslims to think about future generations when caring for the environment?

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19. How can your family or school apply Islamic teachings to reduce waste and protect nature?

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