

Living Geography Projects

The Geographical Association has worked on several projects that look at 'Living Geography' in action. Explore some of the resources from these projects and reflect on the different ways to approach teaching *Living geography*. The projects are concerned with places, settlements and the environment. Some of the materials from these projects are available from the [Project archive](#) pages.

Building sustainable communities

This project was concerned with *Living geography* – at home and outside the front door – and with participation now and for the future. The project asked two questions: 'What is meant by sustainable communities?' and 'How do geographical skills lead to engagement?' Materials were developed by four teacher groups. Look at [What is a sustainable community?](#)

Living Geography

Local *Living Geography* projects enable the concepts of sustainable development to be embedded into mainstream education. They study real places, and involve pupils in better understanding of:

- a sense of their 'place' and wider linkages
- what sustainable development is about
- how it can be applied in practice
- the nature of sustainable development goals.

Making My Place in the World

This project aimed to help students develop speaking and listening skills and geographical knowledge by exploring their local area.

Where will I live?

The project explored how where you live directly affects the place that you have chosen and also how the place directly affects you and your subsequent decisions. The project explored with pupils the way the housing market operates and regional differences in priority, and the impact of our decision on places and spaces. The teachers developed many resources, for an example look at [Where Will I Live Project Booklet](#).

Young People's Geographies

The Young People's Geographies project was about making school geography more exciting and relevant to students by involving them in curriculum making and by focusing on their own lived geographies. At the heart of the project was the idea of conversation. These changes can't happen unless teachers and students talk to each other. See [Young Peoples' Geography Project](#).

Further reading for trainee teachers and ECTs

- Mitchell, D. (ed.) (2009) *Living Geography: Exciting futures for teachers and students*. London: Chris Kington Publishing. This publication is a collection of articles on geographical themes that are relevant and exciting for pupils. Each theme has a practical examples of classroom activities.