# Compass Lesson Plan & Case Study

## Grade 2 English: Biomes and Role of Plastic Bags

(Submitted by Daniela Romero Rodriguez, 2018, while serving as Grade 2 Teacher at American School Foundation of Guadalajara, Mexico)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tool(s) used:</th>
<th>● Sustainability Compass</th>
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| Purpose of using tool: | ● Research  
  **Overview:** To organize research, delve deeper in the subject and to see connections between the information. |
| Context of lesson/case study: | English classroom |
| Participants (# and description): | Grade 2 students |
| Topic, Theme, or Key Understanding of unit/project: | Biomes and role of plastic bag |
| Length of unit/project: | 1 bimester |
| Resources/materials & setting required: | Researching tools |

## Lesson Plan/Description of the Project:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day 1</th>
<th>Day 2</th>
<th>Day 3</th>
<th>Day 4</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>1st Read-enjoyment:</strong></td>
<td><strong>Comprehension Skill</strong></td>
<td><strong>Vocabulary</strong></td>
<td><strong>Discussion</strong></td>
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| Before Reading:  
What do you notice about the art on the cover? What might this book be about? | Review your list. Please provide about plot  
Practice retelling using this structure.  
What is the problem in this story?  
Give details - not just plastic bags, what happened?  
Inferential Questions:  
- Why does Isabella keep the plastic bag to the ground when it breaks?  
What happened to her basket when she dropped it?  
How is the plastic bag different?  
(PA of tool)  
- How did Isabella feel about her idea? (after explaining plan)  
- Why does the author keep repeating “Then two. Then ten?”  
- Do you think plastic bags are still a problem in Niau? Why or why not?  
| Fell  
Tumbled sore | Students discuss the impact of the problem in Gambela using the sustainability compass.  
What impact did the plastic bag problem have on the well-being of people in Niau, Gambela?  
What impact did the plastic bag problem have on the nature of Niau, Gambela?  
What impact did the plastic bag problem have on the economy of Niau, Gambela?  
What impact did the plastic bag problem have on the society of Niau, Gambela? |

I used the tool in my classroom as a way to organize research we were doing on a biome (Tundra). Students...
would do research on Ipads and books as well as news articles and write important information on post-its. As a class we would decide on where it would go on the Sustainability Compass. They would later start to place post-its where they thought they belonged and then they would discuss with a partner and then as a class. The Compass was a great visual of our learning. We started filling it with previous knowledge in a specific colour and once we started doing research with a different colour, so we could see our growth. We also used the Compass in our unit plan as a team. After reading a read aloud related to an environmental issue, to organize the effects and causes portrayed in the book.

**Reflection**

**Plusses:**

It is a great organizer for the students as well as a great visual. It reflects individual student learning which is also shared with the whole class. It was then clear what areas we needed to do more research and where we needed to go deeper in our research. Students were able to find connections that previous 2nd graders were not able to do because we didn't include it in our plan.

**Challenges:**

I will start using the Compass in other areas, for example class meetings. In a more informal way to make it easier when we include the tool in a Unit.

**Suggestions for other practitioners and educators:**

Use it! I didn't think this was a tool 2nd graders could utilize but they have really enjoyed seeing it on the whiteboard and it has motivated them to do more research.

**Evidence and Resources:**