

Balloons blow!

Class: Middle school/high school

Level: Upper-intermediate.

Time : 45 minutes

Aims:

- To learn about balloons and how they are made
- To learn about rubber trees and latex
- To learn about balloons' impact on the environment
- To look for specific information on the internet
- To read for specific information
- To transfer the information.
- To use web pages

CLIL: ecology, biology, chemistry

Materials : included photocopies, ccess to the internet and personal computer, speakers.

STAGE	AIMS	PROCEDURE	CLASSROOM LANGUAGE	TIME	MATERIALS
Introducti on	To start the lesson	Check the register /check homework		1 min/ 6 min	
Warm –up activity	To provide students with introductio n to the topic	Brainstorming as a class	What occasions can you think of that people use balloons?	5 min	
The main part of the lesson	To learn about rubber trees and latex extraction	Ask the students to go online and read about rubber trees. Check the understanding of the text.	First go to http://www.rainforest-alliance.org/kids/species-profiles/rubber-tree and read about rubber trees which are very important in balloon production.	10 min	Worksheet 1 Internet
	To explain key words	Ask the students to work in pairs and find explanations/ definitions/translation to the words given	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • latex • pigment • mold • to cure • to acceleate • to dip • coagulent 	5 min	
	To learn about balloon production phases	Ask the students to read a text individually and then work in pairs drawing the diagram with production stages. Check the answers walking around the class. The answers may vary slightly.	Go to http://www.balloonhq.com/faq/making.html#260 , read the information and draw a diagram showing the stages of balloon production	7min	
	To watch and learn,	Ask the students to watch a video and write the	Now go to http://www.youtube.com/watch?	7min	

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	understand , filter information	answers to the questions, then check the answers in pairs or small groups	v=PJQecDCS1aI , watch How it's made – balloons and answer the questions about latex and balloons.		
Wrap- up	To learn about ecological impact of balloons	Ask the students to go online and browse the site, learn about the negative impact of balloons Ask if the students are surprised and if the information makes them change their attitude.	Go to http://balloonsblow.org/Education and read up about the ecological impact of balloons.	10 min	

Sources:

<http://www.rainforest-alliance.org/kids/species-profiles/rubber-tree>

<http://www.balloonhq.com/faq/making.html#260>

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PJQecDCS1aI>

<http://balloonsblow.org/Education>