

PANEL DISCUSSION

What does the word environment make you think of?

The pupils worked both individually and in groups of 5-6 persons.

In the beginning, we had a warm-up discussion about environment with vocabulary and topics related to previous knowledge.

Then each pupil had to write as many words as he/she knew about environment, individually. We made the mindmap on the board which was dictated by all pupils.



After that, each group discussed themselves about the common vocabulary they had and created the "group mindmap".



Moreover, though at first I tried to introduce the placemat strategy, it did not work out but each group decided to make a poster to present a specific topic : **“Forests and Mountains”, “Recycling”, “Air pollution, Sea pollution”, “Animals in danger”**. They searched and found pictures, they draw pictures and they wrote some thoughts for each topic. They finished them in class and hanged them on the classroom walls.





The topics on the mindmap:

Landforms

Plain , peninsula, lake, river, mountains, caves, beach, rocks.

Weather

Sky, clouds, snow, rain, temperature, sun, wind.

Pollution

Sea pollution, water supplies, protection of the environment, countryside, nature, natural disaster, fires, air pollution.

Forests and plants

Trees, forests, flowers, grass, tree houses, ground, organic products.

Animals

Species in danger, birds, wolves, wild animals, sea turtle.

Conclusion

The pupils were very enthusiastic and willing to do more tasks than the ones being asked. We also focused on Grammar points (expressing opinions-making proposals), and they surprised me with their thoughts about the special issues they presented in their posters (acid rain, recycling, fires in Greece, sea pollution). Though it was a big fuss when we started, it turned out to be a very successful and organized activity.

