

Amgueddfa Cymru - National Museum Wales



Introducing the Global Citizenship Mini Challenge



ISSUE: SUSTAINABILITY
FOCUS: THE WOOLLEN INDUSTRY



A 3D maze with white walls and a green path. The path starts from the top left, winds through several turns, and ends in a large green arrow pointing downwards and to the right. The maze is composed of rectangular blocks of varying heights, creating a complex network of paths and dead ends.

What is the Mini Challenge?

- Challenges are designed to test your Essential Employability Skills
- This Challenge will focus on
 - **Problem Solving and Critical Thinking**
 - **Creativity and Innovation**

What is the Mini Challenge?

Amgueddfa Cymru has challenged you to explore the issue of **Sustainability** and the woollen industry, past and present.



What is the Mini Challenge?

You are then challenged to develop a **Personal Standpoint** on this issue and a pack of resources for an activity to **Raise Awareness** of this issue among younger pupils at your school.



Sustainability and the Woollen Industry

Sustainability and the Woollen Industry

- Our survival and well-being depends, either directly or indirectly, on our natural environment
- Sustainability creates and maintains the natural environment so that we can meet our social, economic and other requirements now and in the future
- Sustainability is important to make sure that we continue to have the water, materials, and resources we need and that the environment is protected

Sustainability and the Woollen Industry

Country	Number of head of sheep
China	185,000,000
Australia	75,547,846
India	75,500,000
Sudan	52,500,000
Iran	50,220,000
Nigeria	39,000,000
New Zealand	30,786,761
United Kingdom	32,856,000
Pakistan	28,800,000
Turkey	27,425,233
Total	1,172,833,190

Sheep farming and the woollen industry has a long history and is still of world-wide importance.

From the United Nations FAO Statistical yearbook 2013

Sustainability and the Woollen Industry

Wales also has a proud history of sheep farming and the woollen industry.

- The woollen industry first developed as a small cottage industry
- With the introduction of machinery (such as spinning-jennies) after 1790, it was increasingly based in large woollen mills



CASGLAD Y WERIN CYMRU / PEOPLES COLLECTION WALES



Sustainability and the Woollen Industry

Wool has been important in the history of Wales

- Wool flannel shirts were used by Welsh miners in the 19th century.
- Wool flannel shirts absorbed the sweat while miners were working.
- Wool is a natural fire retardant due to its high nitrogen and water content and does not ignite easily – important underground.

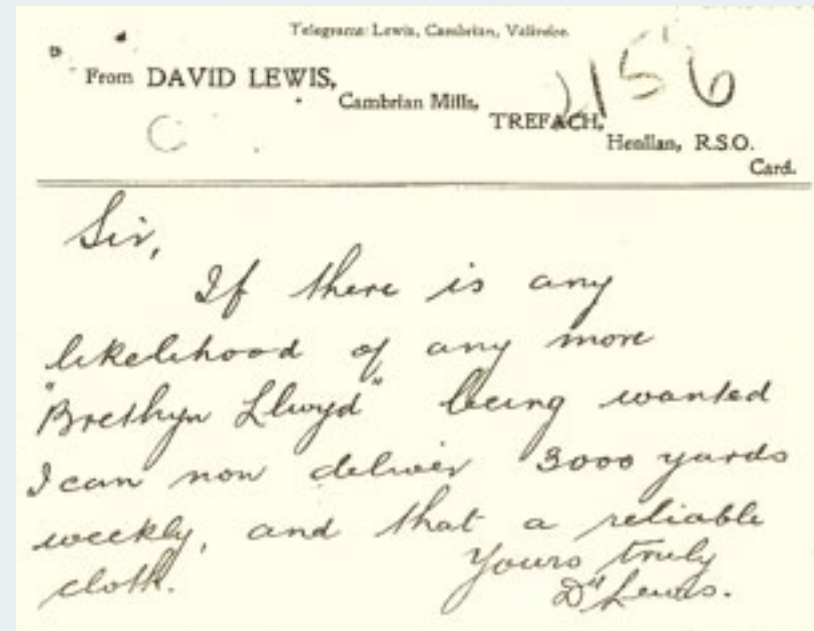


AMGUEDDFA CYMRU

Sustainability and the Woollen Industry

Wool has been important in the history of Wales.

- Welsh Grey homespun cloth or *Brethyn Llwyd* was used to meet the demand for army uniforms during World War One. This helped to reinforce the national identity of the Welsh Army Corps
- Welsh woollen manufacturers rose to the challenge. By 1915 the Cambrian Mills in Dre-fach Felindre (now the National Wool Museum) claimed it could produce 3,500 yards of cloth a week, enough for 1,200 uniforms



Sustainability and the Woollen Industry

Wool is still very important to the Welsh economy.

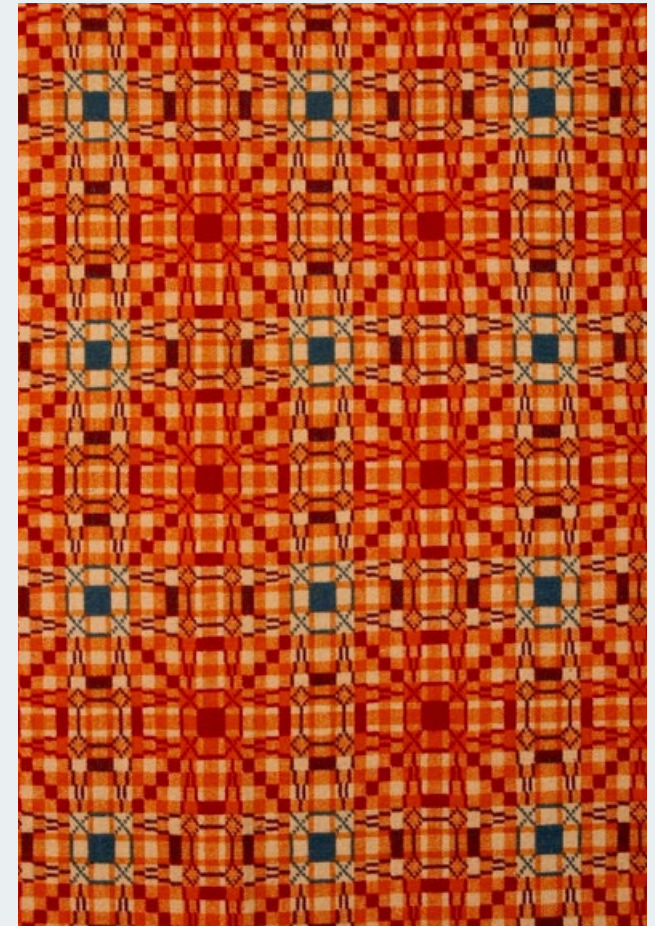
The Prince of Wales launched the **Campaign for Wool** in January 2010 as an initiative to expand the market for British and Commonwealth wool and promote awareness of wool as a sustainable product with huge environmental benefits.



Sustainability and the Woollen Industry

Those who champion wool as a sustainable product argue that:

- Using wool products supports the world's farmers
- Most wool is produced organically with pesticide-free pastures and low use of harmful chemicals
- Wool is fire-resistant and does not burst into flames but just smoulders
- Merino wool keeps you warm when you're cold, and cool when you're hot
- Merino wool is long lasting and can be bent 20,000 times before breaking



(PHOTOGRAPH: AMIGUEDDFA CYMRU)

Sustainability and the Woollen Industry

Those who champion wool as a sustainable product argue that:

- The raising and breeding of sheep requires a lot of land and food
- Sheep, and the woollen industry generally, involve high water consumption
- Use of chemicals in the production of wool, yarns and fabrics can be dangerous for the environment



(PHOTOGRAPH: AMIGUEDDFA CYMRU)

Sustainability and the Woollen Industry

- You can learn more by studying the issue in Wales, before looking at other countries
- Visiting the National Wool Museum at Dre-fach Felindre will enable you to find out more about sustainability in the woollen industry



(PHOTOGRAPH: AMGUEDDFA CYMRU)

What do you have to do for the Mini Challenge?

1. Carry out research on an aspect of the issue of **Sustainability** and the woollen industry and produce a **Personal Standpoint** of your views on this global issue
2. Develop a **Raising Awareness Activity** for use with younger pupils.
Produce a **Raising Awareness Pack** illustrating your ideas
3. Complete a **Personal Reflection**

TASK 1 Your Personal Standpoint

- Find information about the issue from a range of sources
- Find information on the political, economic, social, technological, legal and environmental (PESTLE) aspects
- State your personal views about the issue of poverty and child labour, commenting on the reliability of sources you refer to

Comment on the Reliability of Your Sources

How useful is the source?	What information can you get from this source? Is this information detailed or limited in any way?
What reasons are there to believe the source?	What makes this a believable and reliable source? Is it, for example, an official government document, first-hand evidence of an eye-witness or in agreement with other reliable sources?
Are there any reasons to doubt the source?	Could the source or parts of it be unreliable e.g. be inaccurate, lies, biased or exaggerated?

Comment on the Political, Economic, Social, Technological, Legal and Environmental aspects

POLITICAL	The views and actions of governments and politicians
ECONOMIC	The importance of the woollen industry to the economy
SOCIAL	The impact and importance of woollen industry on communities
TECHNOLOGICAL	The use of technology in the woollen industry and its sustainability
LEGAL	Laws relating to sustainability and the woollen industry
ENVIRONMENTAL	The impact of the woollen industry on the environment

TASK 2 **Raising Awareness**

- Create a pack of resources for an activity to **Raise Awareness** of an aspect of the issue of **Sustainability** and the woollen industry among younger pupils at your school
- Be creative and innovative. You could consider presentations, leaflets, campaigns, websites, blogs, poems, songs, posters or better still come up with your own original ideas



TASK 3 Your Personal Reflection

- Record and review your **personal role** and contribution
- Reflect on your **personal effectiveness**, including in your own role and as a team member
- If you worked as a team, record and review the way you developed and used **your personal and team-working skills**
- Be sure to include **Creativity and Innovation** and **Critical Thinking** and **Problem Solving**

How will you be judged?

- How well you work as an individual or together as a team
- Your Critical Thinking and Problem Solving and Creativity and Innovation
- The quality of your **Personal Standpoint, Raising Awareness activity** and **Pack**

To help with answering your brief you can:



- Visit the National Wool Museum
- Prepare for the Mini Challenge using the Amgueddfa Cymru Sustainability and the Woollen Industry Source Pack and Activities