

LESSON PLAN 23: WORLD'S LARGEST ONLINE VOTE

Objective: Participate in voting for the 'New7Wonders of Nature'

Age range: 8-18

The aim of the New7Wonders Foundation is to “contribute to the protection of the world’s human-built and natural heritage and to foster respect for the cultural diversity on our planet.” Its latest venture is an online global vote for the ‘New7Wonders of Nature’ – following up on its successful New7Wonders vote last year (www.new7wonders.com/classic/en/n7w/results/). Your class can make their own choices and register their votes.

YOU WILL NEED

► Internet access

DEVELOPING SKILLS

Geography, research, voting, natural history, collaboration

METHOD



1. Visit www.new7wonders.com
2. The site has a detailed history of the project, an introductory video and details of the vote. There’s plenty to explore.
3. Click on ‘Vote Now for the New 7 Wonders of Nature’ to go through to the home page of the online vote. Here you can find out about the nominees so far – there’s an interactive world map showing sites that have already been listed. You can also suggest new nominees.



4. Ask the class to discuss:

- what sort of places are eligible to be part of the vote
- why sites been chosen
- what they think of the choices

You could also talk about the process of voting, the impact of modern communications on this vote (would it be possible without the Internet?), and issues of globalisation as a whole.

5. Explore the places in New Zealand that have been nominated and ask students to identify other places that could be nominated. (At the time of writing, there were three nominations: Milford Sound; Franz Josef Glacier; and the Ross Ice Shelf – although only Franz Josef had so far been officially supported).

6. Make nominations, cast your vote and follow how the voting goes. To vote, you will need to register on the site. Voting for nominees will continue until the end of 2008. Twenty-one finalists will be shortlisted, from which voters worldwide will elect the New7Wonders of Nature.



SCHOOLS' SECTION

There’s a comprehensive schools’ section that has tools and screensavers, and ideas for classroom projects.

www.new7wonders.com/classic/en/kids_and_schools/