

Preparatory work for the Earth Charter Exchange in the UK 21st-28th September

Can you prepare a short report describing an area of outstanding beauty in your country and include pictures.

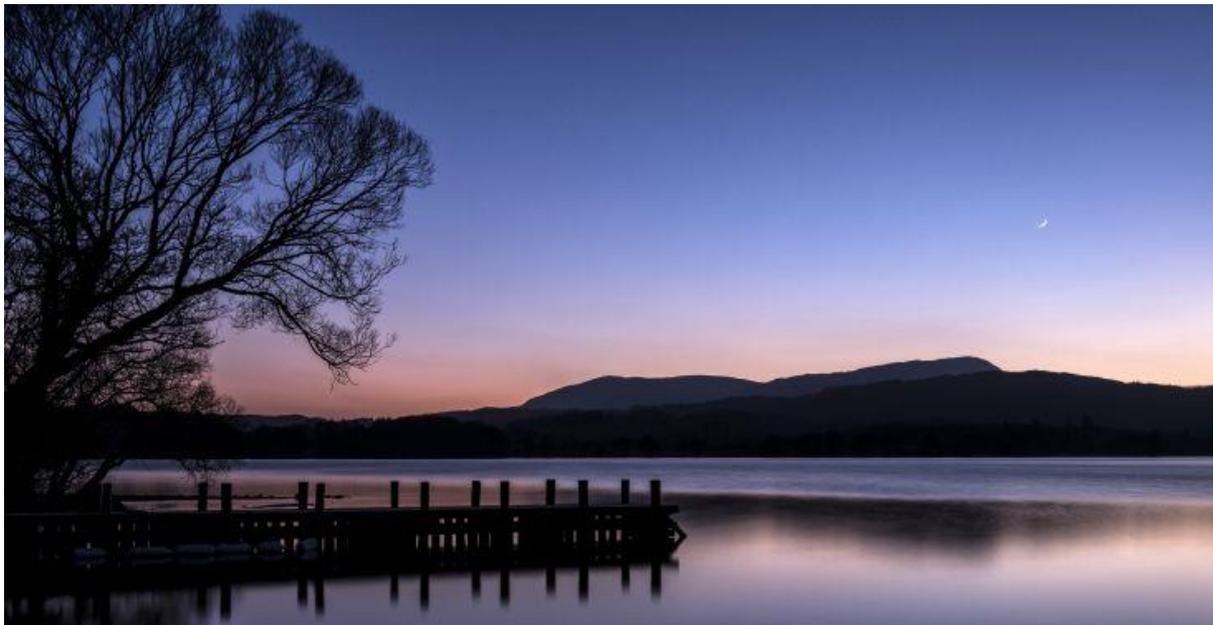
Is the area under threat?

What is being done to preserve it?

Print out your work prior to the visit ready for display during the exchange week.

An example from the UK

The Lake District



Tourists from all over the world visit the Lake District National Park for its spectacular scenery, wildlife, history and culture. Tourism is vital to the economy of the area, providing employment and supporting services in local communities.

Tourism facts and figures

Tourism is the main source of income for Lake District economy. Tourism brings great benefits to the area. Visitors spend money on accommodation, food, drink and leisure activities and indirectly support other business such as wholesalers and the building trade.

- Tourism income: In 2017 visitors spent £1,417 million in the Lake District
- Visitor numbers: In 2017, 19.17 million tourists visited the Lake District
- Employment: Tourism provided 18,565 jobs (full time equivalents) in the National Park in 2017

Source for all figures: STEAM 2017: Cumbria Tourism

Impacts of tourism

Large numbers of visitors bring both great advantages to the area along with some big challenges.

Positive impacts

- The needs of tourists create new jobs
- Tourists support local shops and products
- Money from tourists can be used to conserve and improve the area
- Services for tourists benefit local people, for example public transport and roads
- Local people value and care for the environment

Negative impacts

- Jobs in tourism are often seasonal and wages are low
- Prices rise in shops as tourists have more money to spend
- Shops cater for the requirements of tourists not local people
- Large numbers of tourists can damage the environment. For example footpath erosion
- Demand for holiday homes pushes up house prices for local people.
- More pollution and litter
- More traffic congestion and parking issues

Sustainable tourism

Sustainability is at the core of all we do as National Park Authority. Our vision, states that "The Lake District National Park will be an inspirational example of sustainable development in action."

We want a tourism industry that is successful and profitable and protects the local environment and culture.

We want to:

- sustain the landscape, wildlife and cultural heritage which have always attracted visitors.
- improve the visitor experience by providing better services such information, public transport and improved public toilets
- improve access to the countryside and water
- provide more opportunities for adventurous activities and things to do when it is raining
- offer local food and crafts distinctive to the area
- ensure that good quality accommodation is available at a wide range of prices