

Seagull & the Storm – Floating Offshore Wind Education Pack



Introduction

The Seagull and the Storm is a gorgeous, animated video, designed to educate primary level students about the impacts of climate change and on what can be done to help. The animation, brought to life by the talented Cork animator Jane Lee, follows Roisín Renewables and her friend the Seagull as they learn about fossil fuels and their impacts on climate around the world (view here: <https://youtu.be/vTm7hmBUswQ>). They also learn about efforts being made to reduce these impacts but realise that more must be done to help keep fossil fuels in the ground. Roisín, an aspiring engineer, designs a plan to build wind farms further out to sea on floating structures, opening up previously inaccessible marine areas to renewable energy production and in the process calming the angry elements. The animation is being promoted as a community engagement initiative by Simply Blue Energy (SBE) who are currently developing a floating offshore wind farm called Ilen off the west coast of Clare, part of our Western Star portfolio of offshore renewable energy projects. Ilen aims to help Ireland progress towards a green energy future by harnessing the tremendous wind potential of the Atlantic Ocean.

Objectives

A key learning objective is to help primary school children to understand the issue of climate change and to empower them with the knowledge that no one is too small to make a difference. It is intended to stimulate a child's interest and promote enquiry around what children can do to help preserve the

planet that they will soon inherit. This content fits within the Social, Environmental and Scientific Education (SESE) curricula across the various age groups from junior to senior primary cycles.

Lesson materials (power point slide deck) have been developed to accompany the 4.5 minute animation designed to help guide this discussion. In addition, two separate competitions will be run for schools along the coast in the area of our project site, based around a colouring competition and a poster making competition. Prizes include Lego Wind Turbines as well as monetary prizes for schools to go towards environmental initiatives!

Simply Blue's mission is to raise awareness of the oceans' potential, pioneer marine project development and collaborate with partners to build a sustainable blue economy and communities. Our project goal for Ilen is to help the government realise its carbon reduction targets while being a part of the global effort to reduce fossil fuel emissions and the impacts of climate change. We endeavour to achieve this in a sustainable and collaborative way, forging lasting relationships with communities and helping to build local supply chains by focusing on investment in local people and infrastructure. We are presenting this learning opportunity to schools located in the vicinity of Ilen as part of our community engagement process.

Materials & Module Outline

A short PowerPoint presentation has been developed for teachers to accompany the video. This presentation introduces fossil fuels and sources of renewable energy and how they can affect our climate and environment. It describes floating offshore wind, a cutting-edge technology that will help Ireland to become a world leader in renewable energy production by giving access to deeper waters off the south and west coasts. Roisín Renewables and her friend the Seagull are then introduced.

After watching the animation, students are encouraged to brainstorm around the issues raised by the video and to have a discussion around what they have learned and what they can do to combat climate change. We would also like to present the option for one of our team of engineers or scientists to join the class, for example, via zoom, for a question-and-answer session.

Finally, participation in the Competition outlined below provides an opportunity to reinforce the learning in a fun way.

Inter-School Competition Specifics

Junior to Second Class Competition

Junior infants to second class students will be invited to draw and colour a picture of any aspect of the video. Some suggestions are given below:

- Roisín Renewables
- The Seagull

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https://simplybluegroup.com/					
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- The Sun, Sea or Wind
- A floating wind turbine or farm

Third to Sixth Class Competition

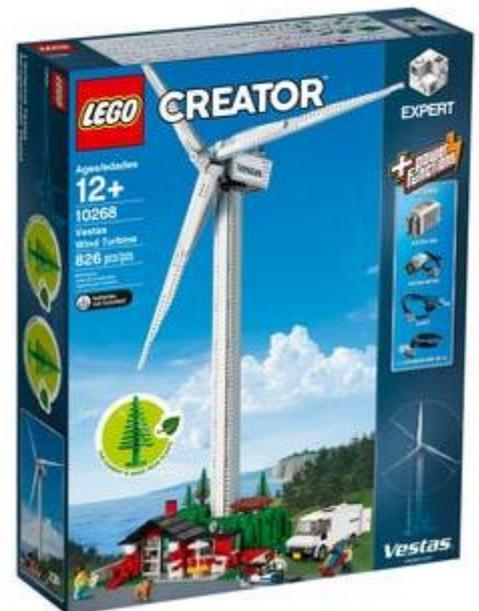
Students in third to sixth class will be asked to create a poster containing some of the information that they have learned from the video and the discussion, with drawings/pictures illustrating that information. Some suggestions for this are given below:

- Examples of renewable energy sources vs. fossil fuel energy sources
- Examples of effects of climate change
- How a floating offshore wind farm might look/work

Entering and Prizes

More information about entering the competitions, along with adjudication and prizes is given below:

- A separate competition will be held for the junior infants to second class group entries (colouring) and for the third to sixth class entries (poster)
- All entries should have the student's name, class and school clearly labelled on it and submitted in the form of a digital photograph.
- All photographs should be uploaded by the school/teacher to a cloud-based folder using the link provided in the email and separated by colouring competition and poster competition in the folders provided.
- The closing date for entries will be Friday 28th May.
- Adjudication will be carried out by a three-person panel, including:
 - Fiona Devoy-McAuliffe, Senior Offshore Renewable Energy Researcher with **UCC and MaREI**
 - Gary Tyrrell, Climate Actions Officer in the Environmental Education Unit, **An Taisce**
 - a representative from the Ilen project team
- Prizes awarded will be as follows:
 - Lego wind turbine set – awarded to class of winning entry and first runner-up entry
 - €500 to be put towards school environmental initiative – awarded to schools with the best over-all entries
 - Above prizes to be awarded for each of the junior (colouring) and senior (poster) competitions
- Judging and notification of awards to be completed by the end of term.



Who We Are?

Headquartered in Cork, Ireland, Simply Blue Energy (www.simplybluegroup.com/) is a leading early-stage developer of sustainable and transformative marine projects who work with the oceans and enable communities to benefit from blue growth. Our projects cover floating wind energy, wave energy and aquaculture. Our mission is to raise awareness of the oceans’ potential, pioneer marine project development and collaborate with partners to build a sustainable blue economy and communities. We are committed to engaging with coastal communities and supporting stepping-stone developments to encourage growth that will benefit everyone.

Western Star

Simply Blue Energy is progressing Western Star, a portfolio of co-developed floating offshore wind and wave energy conversion projects in the Atlantic Ocean off the West Coast of Co. Clare (www.westernstarmarine.com). It consists of two separate projects: “Saoirse”, a 30MW wave energy converter (WEC) site; and “Ilen”, a 1.1GW floating offshore wind site. Saoirse intends to use technology developed by CorPower Ocean (<https://www.corpowerocean.com/>) and will be the first demonstration scale WEC project in Ireland. The proposed site for this element is minimum 4km from the coast and the project is intended to be developed in a phased manner (5MW to 10MW to 30MW) to help develop the local supply chain. Ilen, the Floating Offshore Wind (FOW) site will be located a minimum of 35km from shore. The combination of wind and wave energy will help to balance grid supply and the location is intended to allow connection to the national grid through infrastructure at the Moneypoint thermal power plant which is due to be decommissioned.

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