

What is a Blue Economy?

THE RIPPLE EFFECT

Activity
Grades 9 - 12



Learning Outcomes

After completing this activity, learners will be able to:

- Define blue economy and its objectives
- Identify and describe the different characteristics of a blue economy
- Understand opportunities within the blue economy

Length of Activity

90 - 120 minutes

Materials Required

- Internet-enabled device
- What is a Blue Economy Backgrounder

Step 1: Introducing the Concept

Begin by watching the following video on blue economy:

Changing Tides – A Sustainable Blue Economy (2:12 minutes)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Qg5u63QQP-A>

After watching the video, continue on to distributing the topic backgrounder to your learners and have them read the information provided on blue economy.

Step 2: Research and Discussion

After watching the video and reading the backgrounder, encourage students to further explore the concept of a blue economy by discussing and researching the following questions:

- How would you describe a blue economy?
- What is the purpose of a blue economy?
- What are different sectors and industries that are considered in a blue economy?
- How is a blue economy different from a traditional economy?
- Why is it important to explore the need for sustainable economic development for oceans?
- How can a blue economy help address concerns of climate change?
- How is a blue economy relevant for Canada?
- What types of skills and knowledge will be required to meet the workforce demands of a blue economy?
- Given the serious challenges our oceans currently face, what kind of policies should be developed to expand the economic contributions of oceans, while protecting and restoring their health?

Here are a few resources for further research into this topic. Learners are welcomed to use other sources as well, make sure they include their references.

- [Center for the Blue Economy](#)
- [What is the Blue Economy? Eco Canada](#)
- [Sustainable Islands Platform](#)
- [European Union Sustainable Blue Economy](#)
- [Canada Blue Economy Strategy](#)

Step 3: Essay Assignment

Now that learners have gathered plenty of information on blue economy and its importance for today's challenges, ask learners to write a 500 words essay on:

Why should Canada adopt a blue economic model?

If learners wish to present their research and findings in another format instead of an essay, then this assignment can also be adapted to a visual class presentation, a video or a poster. Learners should identify the relevance of a blue economy for Canada and all industries related to oceans that can benefit from a sustainable blue economic model. They can also bring in examples from other countries similar to Canada.