

# Title: **A sustainable Olympics?**

**Level:** KS3 Geography

**Enquiry question:** Will the Olympics make the Lower Lea Valley more sustainable?

## Learning objectives

### Knowledge and understanding

- Define the concept of sustainable development
- Identify unsustainable/sustainable features of the Lower Lea Valley
- Consider how the London 2012 Sustainability Policy could be applied

### Geographical skills

- Sustainability assessment on the Lee Navigation canal
- Interview a local businessperson
- Draw a simple field sketch

## Learning outcomes

### Most students will be able to:

- Understand the concept of sustainable development
- Identify unsustainable/sustainable features of the Lower Lea Valley
- Suggest ways in which the area could be more sustainable
- Assess the potential impacts of London 2012 on the area and people

## Introduction 1.5 hours

Meet at the House Mill, close to Bromley-by-Bow station. It is the world's largest tidal mill and a model of sustainable development. Guide students towards a definition of 'sustainable development'.

Tour the mill to demonstrate how it was sustainable. Consider plans to generate HEP at the mill. Draw an annotated field sketch to show how the mill worked.

Read the London 2012 Sustainability Policy and suggest how it could be applied in the Lower Lea Valley.

## Resources

Sheet 1. What is sustainable development?

Sheet 2. What made House Mill sustainable?  
Sheet 3. House Mill sketch

Sheet 4. London 2012 Sustainability Policy

## Fieldwork 4 hours, including lunch

### Venue 1: Three Mills Lock

Consider the effect the lock has on tidal flow and water level. Examine plans to bring freight to the Olympic Park by boat.

Sheet 5. Lower Lea Valley map  
Sheet 6. Three Mills Lock

### Venue 2: Walk along Lee Navigation canal from Three Mills to Forman's factory

Carry out sustainability assessment at points along canal. Identify animal species observed on walk as an indication of biodiversity.

Sheets 7-9. Sustainability in the Lower Lea Valley  
BW Wildlife Survey 2009

### Venue 3: Forman's factory

Interview representative of Forman's about their relocation from the Olympic Park. Walk to Olympic Stadium.

Sheet 10. Forman's factory interview

### Venue 4: Olympic stadium

Watch time-lapse presentation of stadium construction. Consider the most sustainable way for the stadium and park to be used after the Games.

ODA presentation

## Plenary 30 minutes

Report back on findings from each venue to identify unsustainable/ sustainable features. In what ways do findings demonstrate sustainability, or lack of it? What difference is London 2012 already making? What recommendations could be made to make London 2012 more sustainable? Complete a sustainability evaluation sheet.

Sheet 11. Evaluate sustainable development in the Lower Lea Valley