



Sustainable Development Goals in Education

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Air pollution, evidence from satellite data & human habits

During Covid 19 Lockdown in Ireland, students had a unique opportunity to **measure air pollution levels** when people could not and did not move around and drive their car longer than 5km.

They used real world satellite data from [EO browser](https://aqicn.org/map/europe/) and <https://www.epa.ie/environment-and-you/air/> to gather data and analyse trends and pattern in air pollutant levels and link the trends to human behaviour.

For example, students found that the levels of NO₂ were higher in 2019 compared to 2020.

Students made **pollution catchers**, using paper plates and Vaseline, to find and remove particulate matter from the air outside our school.

Students looked at **plants** and their ability to remove carbon dioxide from the atmosphere using our **CO₂ monitors** that are in our classrooms to measure ventilation during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Students then measured the **greenhouse effect** of carbon dioxide using beakers, clingfilm, vinegar and bicarb, a lamp and a thermometer.

Despite the endothermic reaction between vinegar and bicarb, the carbon dioxide generated trapped the heat from the lamp.

