

Consider how people use scientific explanations to meet a need...

consider how people use scientific explanations to meet a need or solve a problem

Learning intention

- consider how people use scientific explanations to meet a need or solve a problem

Teach and model

- investigating how knowledge of the role of decomposers has helped people design industrial composting systems to manage plant and animal waste
- exploring how knowledge of the properties of plastic has influenced people to change how they purchase, use and dispose of plastic products
- examining how people use knowledge of friction to improve car or bicycle safety on slippery surfaces such as wet or icy roads

Check understanding

- Explain the main idea in consider how people use scientific explanations to meet a need... using an example.
- Show the idea in a second way: with words, a model, a diagram or symbols.
- Apply the idea to a short unfamiliar situation and justify the result.

Teaching cautions

- Ask the student to explain their choice, not only state an answer.
- Check that key vocabulary is understood in a new example.
- Mix representations so the skill is transferred rather than copied.

Quick lesson sequence

- Connect to prior knowledge and introduce the key vocabulary.
- Model one clear example, then solve a second example together.
- Finish with an independent check and a short student explanation.