

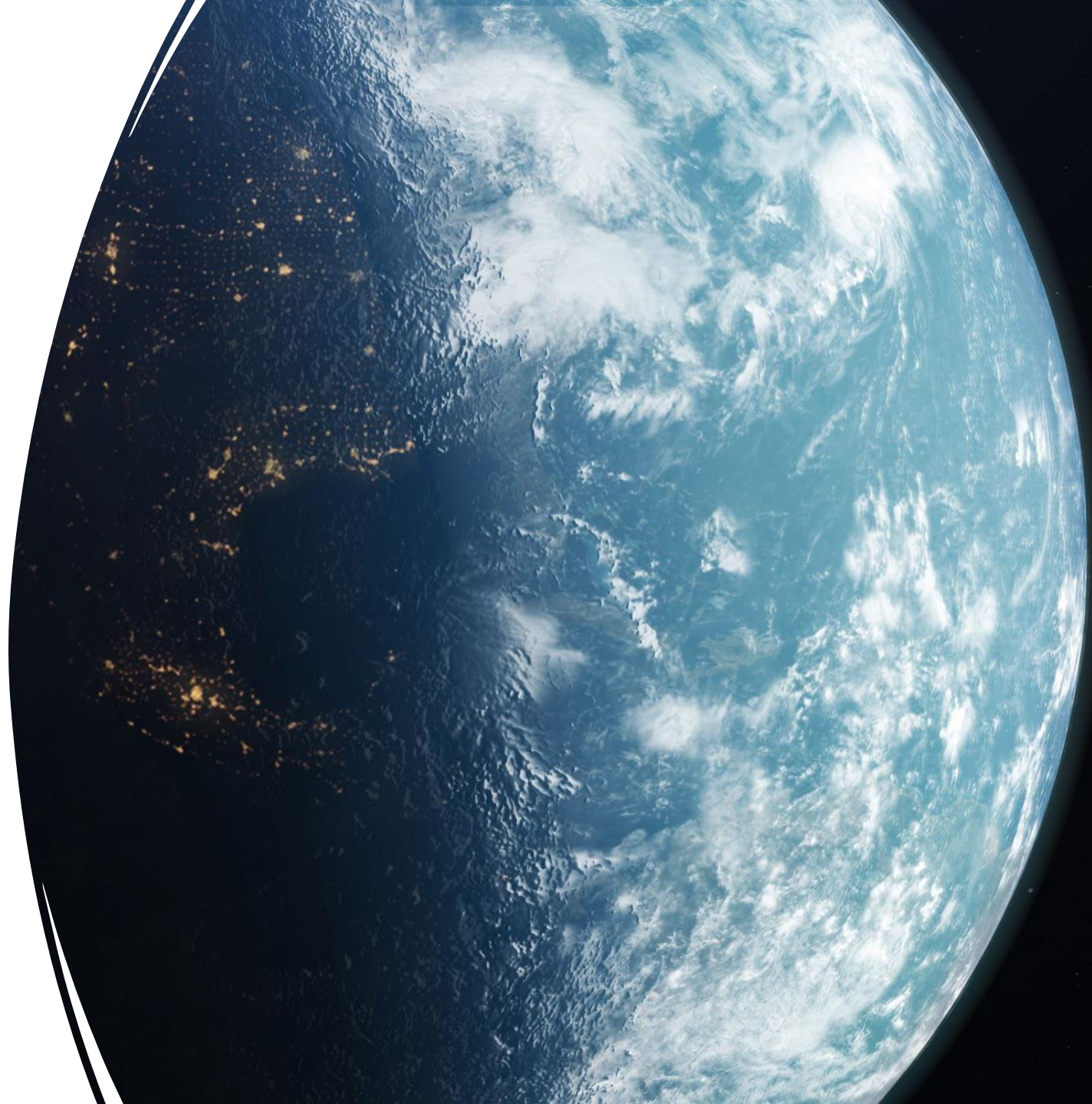
Outdoor Education and the Natural Environment

18/11/24

Big Picture Little Picture

Two aims for today:

- What are the global issues? (Big Picture)
- What does that have to do with Outdoor Adventure Education? (Local perspective)



Global Challenges

Climate Change

Biodiversity Loss

Food shortages

Water shortages

Pollution



Climate Change – Key Facts

- **Global Impacts:** Climate change is a global phenomenon with widespread effects, impacting economies, agriculture, water resources, and human societies around the world.
- **Human Health Risks:** Climate change poses risks to human health through heat-related illnesses, the spread of infectious diseases, and increased frequency of extreme weather events.
- **Melting Ice and Glaciers:** The Arctic, Antarctic, and many glaciers worldwide are experiencing accelerated melting, contributing to rising sea levels and altering ecosystems.
- **Impacts on Ecosystems:** Climate change affects ecosystems and biodiversity, leading to shifts in the distribution of species, disruptions in ecosystems, and threats to various plant and animal species.
- According to the UK Government's [UK Climate Change Risk Assessment 2017](#), sea levels in the UK are rising by approximately 3mm a year.



Biodiversity Loss – Key Facts

- **Human Impact:** Habitat destruction, pollution, climate change, over-exploitation of natural resources, and invasive species are among the main drivers of biodiversity loss, all of which are influenced by human activities.
- **Loss of Habitats:** Deforestation, urbanization, and agricultural expansion contribute to the loss and fragmentation of natural habitats, making it challenging for many species to survive.
- **Keystone Species:** Some species, known as keystone species, have a disproportionately large impact on their ecosystems. The loss of these species can lead to cascading effects and the destabilization of entire ecosystems.
- **Ocean Biodiversity:** Marine biodiversity is also under threat due to overfishing, habitat destruction, pollution, and the impacts of climate change, including ocean acidification and rising sea temperatures.
- **Disease Spread and Emergence:** Changes in ecosystems and the loss of biodiversity can influence the prevalence and spread of diseases. Altered ecosystems may bring humans into closer contact with disease vectors or reservoirs, increasing the risk of infectious diseases like zoonoses (diseases transmitted from animals to humans).
- **Water Quality:** Biodiverse ecosystems, such as forests and wetlands, play a crucial role in maintaining water quality. Loss of biodiversity can lead to decreased water purification and filtration, resulting in the contamination of water sources and potential health risks for communities that depend on them.
- **Psychological and Physical Well-being:** Natural environments, with their diverse ecosystems and species, contribute to human well-being by providing recreational spaces and promoting mental health. Loss of natural habitats and biodiversity can reduce opportunities for outdoor activities and negatively impact psychological and physical health.







Food Security – Key Facts

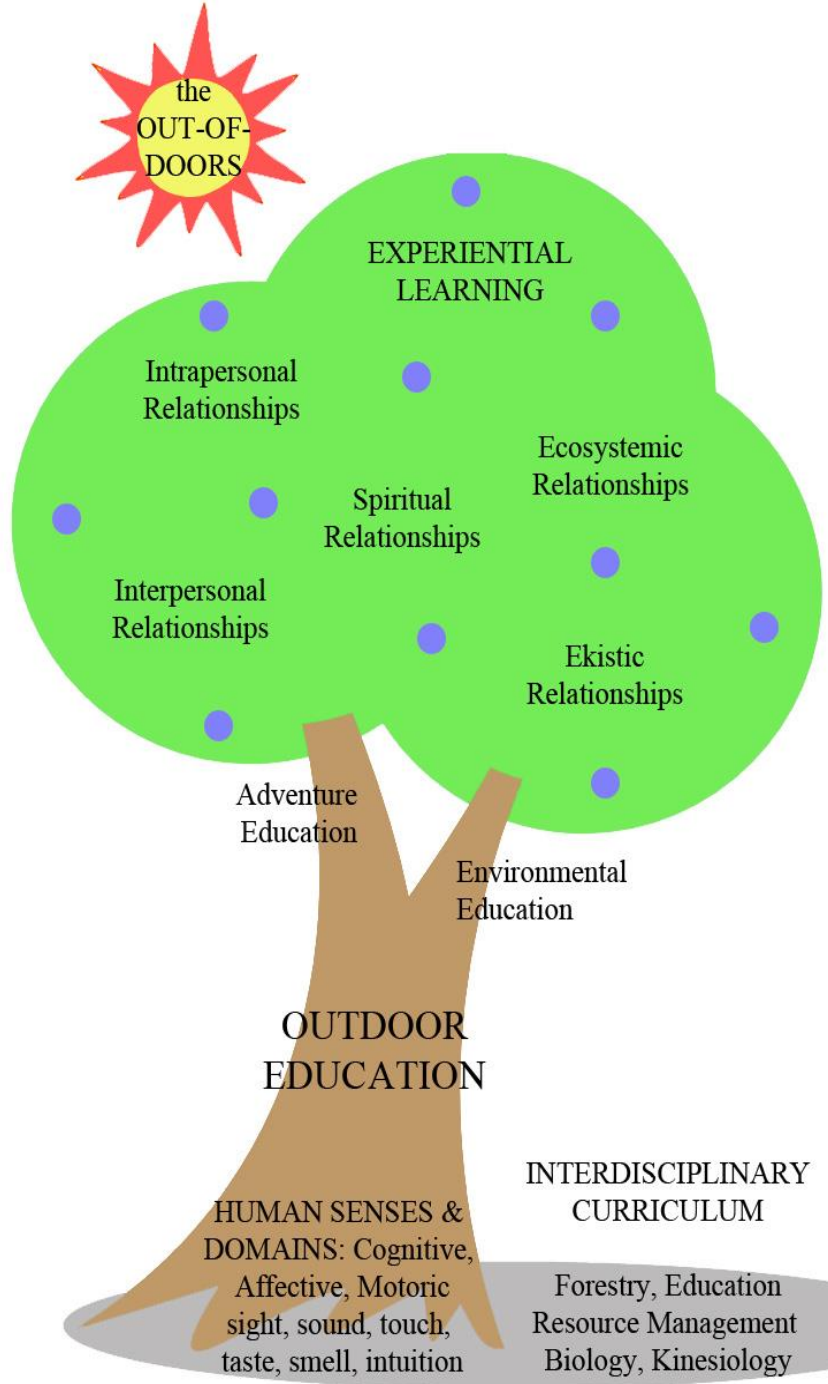


Water Shortages – Key Facts



Plastic Pollution – Key Facts

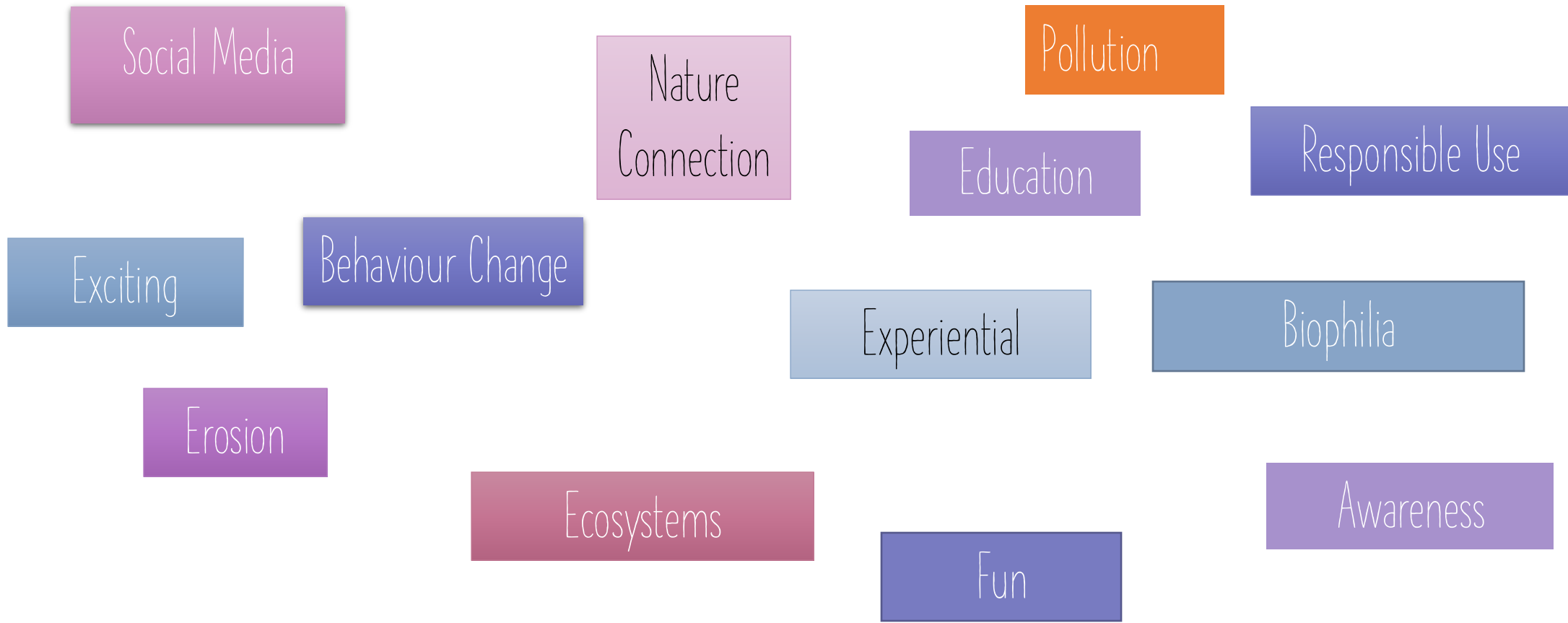




What is the value of
Environmental Education within
Outdoor Adventure programmes?

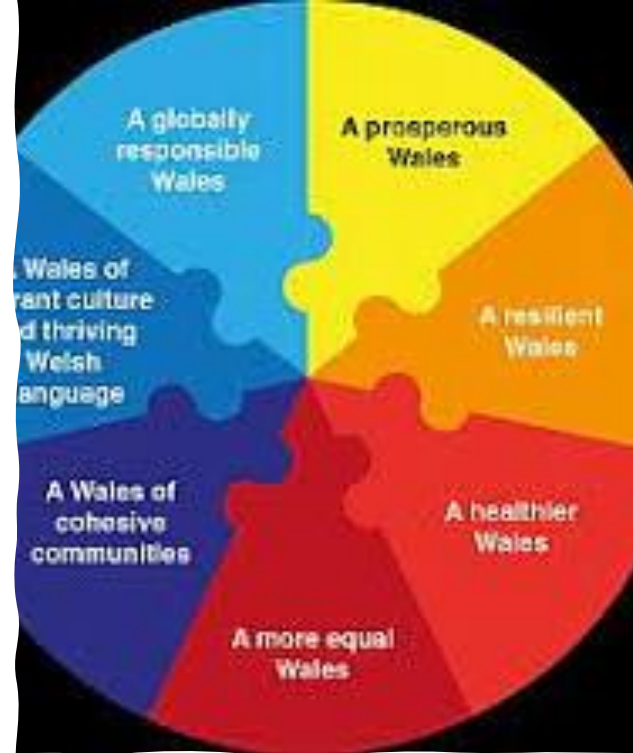
- Does the impact of OAE in relation to the issues discussed, outweigh it's own contribution to the problem.

Impact of OAE



Do Adventurous outdoor activities promote pro-environmental behaviours OR exploit and damage the natural environment?

Legislation



arks and Access to the Countryside

1949 CHAPTER 97 12 13 and 14 Geo 6

is and the establishment of a National Parks Commission
management and maintenance of nature reserves, to make full
paths and for securing access to open country; and to ad
enhancing natural beauty, and for matters connected with t



Pembrokeshire Marine Code





Does the research exist?

A local solution



Marine Life

For the Love of the Sea

patagonia
FILMS



Thoughts to help with Assessment 2

- Case Study Research
- TYF Adventure and Down to Earth
- What do they do, how do they measure/manage their impact,
- Do they successfully integrate OAE and EE? - Is there **real** value in EE delivered within this setting/programme/activity
- What are the conflicts/challenges of an EE agenda within an adventure programme? (Kit, transport, access place and people, environmental impact etc)
- Do we have a responsibility as outdoor educators to include EE within our provision?



Next weeks visit

- Leave campus at 9am - Pick up outside the accommodation blocks
- Visiting the Pembroke Coastal Forum
- Do some research and come with some informed questions