

 **ENVIRONMENT ISSUES: Responsible Tourism**

There are many ways for us to be more responsible when we travel, as outlined in the fact sheet [Environment Issues - Responsible Tourism](#). From respecting the environment to learning about local culture and supporting local businesses, there are many ways we can do our part.

Eco-tourism is a booming industry aimed at highlighting responsibility and some say it's the future of tourism. Although there seem to be many benefits to eco-tourism, it has been criticised as well, some examples of which are highlighted on the fact sheet.

Activity

Organise a debate with your classmates about the benefits and criticisms of eco-tourism. Work in a group of six to eight people; have half the group research the benefits and the other half research the negative aspects. Both groups will need to formulate at least three sound arguments, and can bring in evidence if they wish to support their claims. You will need to start the debate with an introductory summary of your arguments and close with a summary of points covered. Have the other members of the class watching the debate and, at the end, decide whose argument is stronger.

To prepare for your debate, your group will need to create:

1. An introduction statement
2. Three main arguments for your side (either benefits or criticisms)
3. A closing statement, summarising your main arguments

You should take notes during the debate, listing the benefits and disadvantages, and decide which argument you think is stronger.

BENEFITS	CRITICISMS
Main arguments presented:	Main arguments presented:
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Stronger argument:	