



GeoCapabilities Workshop

<http://geocapabilities.org>

Module 1 The Capabilities Approach and Powerful Disciplinary Knowledge

[For 30 teachers from a range of subjects]

Activity

Goal: For participants, this activity is intended to result in an understanding of two theoretical underpinnings of GeoCapabilities: *the capabilities approach* and *powerful disciplinary knowledge*.

0 - 5 minutes: Overview of Module 1: Aims, Content, and Activities

- *Brief orientation to the GeoCapabilities website, highlighting the organization of Module 1*

5 - 15 minutes: Small group activity

- *In groups of 3-4, teachers will be given a copy of Figure 1 (carbon emissions bar graph) from the PDK Climate Change vignette. They will be asked to discuss the following questions:*
 - *How could you use this graph with students that you teach?*
 - *What would you want your students to learn from this graph?*

15 - 25 minutes: Group reporting

- *Each group gets a turn sharing what they discussed.*

25 - 35 minutes: Small group activity

- Teachers return to their groups to discuss the following scenario:

Suppose you organized a class debate on the issue of climate change to determine which nations bear the most responsibility for paying the costs of reducing carbon emissions.

- *What does the graph suggest about which nations are most/least responsible?*
- *Is the graph alone sufficient for determining this responsibility? Why or why not?*

35 - 45 minutes: Group reporting

- *Each group gets a turn sharing what they discussed.*

45 - 60 minutes: PDK Climate vignette

(<http://www.geocapabilities.org/training-materials/module-1-the-capabilities-approach/into-practice/>)

- Teachers will receive a copy of the PDK vignette and listen to Doreen Massey's interview. As a full group, teachers will reflect on the vignette and discuss two questions:
 - *How does the vignette illustrate the importance of geographical knowledge?*
 - *What do you think are some of the consequences for young people who lack opportunities to learn such geographical knowledge in school?*