25SCHOOLS
FREE LEARNING NOTES FOR ZAMBIA

GRADE 1 · TERM 3

Science

Surroundings

Lesson notes for learners · Competence-Based Curriculum

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Our surroundings are our home, our school and our community. When we keep them clean and safe, we stay healthy and happy. In this note you will learn how to look after the places where you live and learn.

AFTER THESE NOTES YOU SHOULD BE ABLE TO

- Say which places around you are clean and which are dirty
- Say what happens when people do not look after their surroundings
- Name ways of caring for your surroundings
- Plant and care for a small plant

KEY WORDS

Surroundings	The places and things around us, such as home, school and the village.
Litter	Rubbish that people throw on the ground.
Dust	Fine dry soil that rises in the air and settles on things.
Seedling	A very young plant that has just started to grow.

1 Clean places and dirty places

Walk around your school with your teacher. Look at the different places. Some places are clean. Some places are dirty.

A clean place has no rubbish on the ground. A dirty place has litter, dust or dirty water. Tell your teacher why you think a place is clean or dirty.

When people do not look after their surroundings, the place becomes dirty. A dirty place is not good to learn in or to play in. We can make a dirty place clean again.

2 Ways of caring for our surroundings

There are many ways to care for the place where we live. We pick up litter and put it in a bin. We sweep the floor and the yard. We do things to stop dust from rising. We plant trees and grass.

We use tools to clean. Brooms, mops, rakes and hoes help us. We use bins to keep rubbish in one place. There are bins for the classroom and bins for outside.

Work together in teams. Each team cleans one small part of the school. When the teams do a good job, the whole school is clean. How do you feel when you see a clean school.

What we do	What we use
Pick up litter	Bin
Sweep the yard	Broom
Clean the floor	Mop
Clear the ground	Rake or hoe
Plant trees and grass	Seedlings and water

Figure 1. Ways of caring and what we use

3 Planting and looking after plants

Plants are part of our surroundings. A teacher can give your team a small plant to plant. You plant it in the ground.

A plant needs care every day. You water it. You pull out weeds that grow around it. You loosen the soil around it so air can reach it. Do this again and again, not just one day.

Caring for our surroundings is not only for one day. We must clean our school and care for our plants often. That is how our school stays a good place to learn.

TRY THIS

Help clean at home. Pick up litter in your yard and put it in a bin or a hole for rubbish. Sweep the floor with a broom. Tell your family how a clean place makes you feel.

REMEMBER

- Our surroundings are our home, school and community
- A clean place helps us stay healthy and happy
- We pick up litter, sweep, stop dust and plant trees and grass
- We work in teams and use brooms, mops, rakes, hoes and bins
- Plants need water and weeding and care every day

? Check yourself

1. Name two things we use to keep our surroundings clean.
2. Where should we put litter.
3. Name one thing you can plant to care for your surroundings.
4. What do we do to take care of a small plant.
5. Thandiwe sees litter all over the school yard after break. Some learners are walking over it. (a) Is this place clean or dirty. (b) What can Thandiwe and her friends do. (c) What do they put the litter in.
6. Your teacher gives your team a small plant to plant at school. Your friend says you only need to water it on the first day. (a) Is your friend right. (b) Name two things you do to care for the plant. (c) How often should you care for it.

ANSWERS

1. Any two of: broom, mop, rake, hoe, bin.
2. In a bin.
3. A tree, grass or a flower.
4. We water it and pull out the weeds around it.
5. (a) Dirty. (b) Pick up the litter. (c) A bin.
6. (a) No. (b) Water it and weed around it. (c) Often, on a regular basis.

Written by 25Schools to follow the Grade 1 Science syllabus of the Zambian competence-based curriculum. Free for learners to read, download and share. More notes and quizzes at 25schools.com.