

Circularity and together for change

Want to be inspired and learn more about how we can live more sustainably at home? Then this is the workshop for you. IKEA has said that we're going to make it possible for more than one billion people to have a better everyday life, within the framework of the UN's global Sustainable Development Goals for 2030. There's an urgency to this challenge, and that's why we want to share knowledge about what we can all do together to achieve the goals.

The workshop discusses what circularity is, circular behaviours and circular production, as opposed to linear production. We also highlight how recycled products should be seen as a material bank for the future. Using a simple guessing game, we figure out which products are made from recycled material and new material left over from our own or other production.

Workshops at IKEA Museum are always based on Swedish national curriculums and syllabuses. We have used the latest updated versions (which come into force in 2022). This description contains:

- An outline of the purpose of the workshop.
- Examples of upper secondary school programmes and subjects the workshop can be linked to.

Purpose and content

- To promote collaboration between school and working life.
- To offer an experience that creates knowledge and insights.
- To boost interest in Natural Science, Technology/Engineering and Creation.
- Focusing on a circular business model, to show how IKEA works together for a sustainable future and a better life at home for the many people.
- To provide students with concrete examples of how products can be made from waste, recycled material, and how they can be repaired and cared for.
- To increase knowledge and reflection about personal behaviours with regard to recycling, sustainability and circularity.

For which courses, programmes, subjects and stages is the approach suitable?

Upper Secondary School

The fundamental values of upper secondary education in Sweden link to many of the aims we envision in the workshop. For example the norms and values that are important within IKEA, such as showing respect and care for both the immediate environment, as well as the environment from a broader perspective. IKEA Museum can see several common denominators in the fundamental values and goals of upper secondary school, including:

- That all individual students can observe and analyse the interaction between people in their surroundings from the perspective of sustainable development.
- That everyone working in the school should also encourage respect for the intrinsic value of each person and the environment we all share.
- That changes in working life, digitalisation, new technologies, internationalisation and the complexities of environmental issues impose new demands on people's knowledge and ways of working.
- That school should stimulate students' creativity, curiosity and self-confidence, as well as their desire to explore and transform new ideas into action, and find solutions to problems.
- That students should develop their ability to take initiatives and responsibility, and to work both independently and together with others.

Whichever upper secondary programme they are studying, students will gain an insight into and knowledge of how IKEA regards circular material flows, and the difference between linear and circular work processes. In a simple way, we show how we want to help our customers lead a more healthy and sustainable life, but also how we make our products circular by 2030 in concrete terms.

Concrete links to programmes and subjects in upper secondary school

Business Management and Economics Programme

The workshop provides knowledge and prompts thoughts and reflections on a range of issues that can contribute to the graduation goals in the Business Management and Economics Programme. This includes:

- How society's resources can best be used to meet people's needs.
- The conditions for sustainable development, from an environmental, economic and social perspective.
- Knowledge of companies' role in social development, locally, regionally, nationally and globally.
- Information highlighting legal and moral responsibilities resulting from enterprise.

Business and Administration Programme

As part of the programme, students should be able to discuss and reflect on environmental aspects and the role of companies in society. This can be linked to the structure and content of our approach by:

- Touching on matters relating to product knowledge and business development.
- Developing the ability to find, analyse and assess information in different areas.
- Providing knowledge of the working environment, and what factors could affect health and well-being.

Handicraft Programme

The workshop provides knowledge and prompts thoughts and reflections on areas that can contribute to the graduation goals in the Handicraft Programme. After their education, students should understand the role of the artisan in society, and have an insight into what consequences the choice and handling of materials have on people and the environment. These are matters that are touched upon in concrete detail in the workshop, along with other areas that contribute to goal achievement. For example:

- Knowledge of entrepreneurship and enterprise, and taking personal responsibility.
- Knowledge of the creative process from idea to finished product, including identifying needs, selecting and handling materials and techniques from a sustainability perspective.

Industrial Technology Programme

The workshop provides knowledge and prompts thoughts and reflections on areas that can contribute to the graduation goals in the Industrial Technology Programme. The programme aims to provide knowledge about how an idea develops into a finished product, and about the product's function and development until the point it is destroyed or recycled. This is brought up in our approach, along with:

- Knowledge of industrial production, raw materials and energy.
This includes how companies can use the choice of material, method and technique to influence the consumption of raw materials and energy, relating to sustainable development from local and global perspectives, as well as business economics.

Building and Construction Programme

The workshop provides knowledge and prompts thoughts and reflections on areas that can contribute to the graduation goals in the Building and Construction Programme. The workshop looks at matters linked to societal infrastructure and safe, rational, environmentally sustainable construction and work processes. The workshop can contribute to:



Museum

- Knowledge and insight into how working methods, materials, tools and assistive devices are constantly changing and evolving, which can contribute to sustainable development.

HVAC and Property Maintenance Programme

The workshop provides knowledge and prompts thoughts and reflections on areas that can contribute to the graduation goals in the HVAC and Property Maintenance Programme. The workshop can help to:

- Increase students' environmental awareness and develop their ability to translate knowledge of the environment, ecology and resource consumption into practical action.
- Ensure that students have the opportunity to understand how efficient energy use contributes to sustainable development.

Electricity and Energy Programme

The workshop provides knowledge and prompts thoughts and reflections on areas that can contribute to the graduation goals in the Electricity and Energy Programme. The programme aims for example to provide knowledge about enterprise, as well as its direct and indirect environmental impact. The workshop can help to:

- Develop students' knowledge of the supply of socially critical basic functions such as production, installation and distribution of electricity, energy and water systems.
- Provide an understanding of the importance of national and international agreements regarding technology, information security and different standards.
- Provide an understanding of the importance of being able to document and take a systematic approach to solving challenges.

Vehicle and Transport Programme

The workshop provides knowledge and prompts thoughts and reflections on areas that can contribute to the graduation goals in the Vehicle and Transport Programme. Through knowledge about how IKEA works with sustainable development, important aspects of the programme are touched upon, such as developing students' ability to execute different work tasks based on requirements on sustainable development. The workshop can also contribute to:

- Greater knowledge about the development of advanced technology and different ways of organising the work, which requires an ability to reflect on, assess and choose between different courses of action.

Natural Resource Use Programme

The workshop provides knowledge and prompts thoughts and reflections on areas that can contribute to the graduation goals in the Natural Resource Use Programme. The programme aims to develop students' understanding of the



diversity of nature, and how different kinds of activity and enterprise affect nature and biological processes. We use concrete examples from the sustainability work at IKEA – for example our self-sufficiency on green electricity, and our endeavour to go beyond our own needs so that we can have an impact and become climate positive. The workshop can also contribute to:

- Knowledge that using nature in a way that promotes sustainable development and nurtures ecosystems places requirements on biological, ecological, technical and economic knowledge.
- Inspiring critical scrutiny and reflection on sustainable development and the use of natural resources.

Restaurant Management and Food Programme

The workshop provides knowledge and prompts thoughts and reflections on areas that can contribute to the graduation goals in the Restaurant Management and Food Programme. The workshop can be adapted to the programme and linked to the IKEA Museum restaurant, KÖKET, which works with sustainable food preparation and ingredient economy. The workshop can contribute to:

- Knowledge of entrepreneurship and enterprise.
- A deeper understanding of the ethical issues raised by food management, sales and sustainable development.
- Knowledge about how everything from food production to waste management is of significance to the environment.

Social Science Programme

The workshop provides knowledge and prompts thoughts and reflections on areas that can contribute to the graduation goals in the Social Science Programme, which looks for example at matters relating to democracy, ethics and the environment. The workshop contributes to:

- An understanding of how different factors affect the possibilities for building a sustainable society.
- Looking at power from economic, social and political perspectives, and which factors can impact and explain what is happening in society at the local and global level.
- Providing historical perspective, enabling the students to look at the past to understand conditions in today's society, and navigate societal changes in the future.

Technology Programme

The workshop provides knowledge and prompts thoughts and reflections on areas that can contribute to the graduation goals in the Technology Programme. The programme aims to highlight the role of technology in the interplay between people and nature, with consideration for sustainable development. The workshop can be enhanced with examples of sustainable development at IKEA, where new technology is an important aspect. The workshop can contribute to:

- Showing connections between different parts of technological development processes, helping the students understand the entire chain in developing technology in a sustainable society.
- Developing a critical, creative and constructive mindset.