

Positive and negative impacts game.

Get students into groups of 2 – 4 and give each group a positive and negative impacts circle diagram. Each group also gets a set of red counters (negative) and green counters (positive).

The teacher explains to the students that they are imagining a new suburb being created further out of the city and to think of the positive and negative impacts this may have to people and the environment.

The teacher reads out the human impact/influence and the students have to think of any positive and negative impacts on people and the environment. Each student gets a chance to suggest an impact. If they think there is a negative impact then they pick up a red counter and place it in the negative circle and if it is positive then they pick up a green one and place it in the positive circle. Students then share their thoughts as a class. Repeat with the next influence. Keep the counters on the circles until the end.

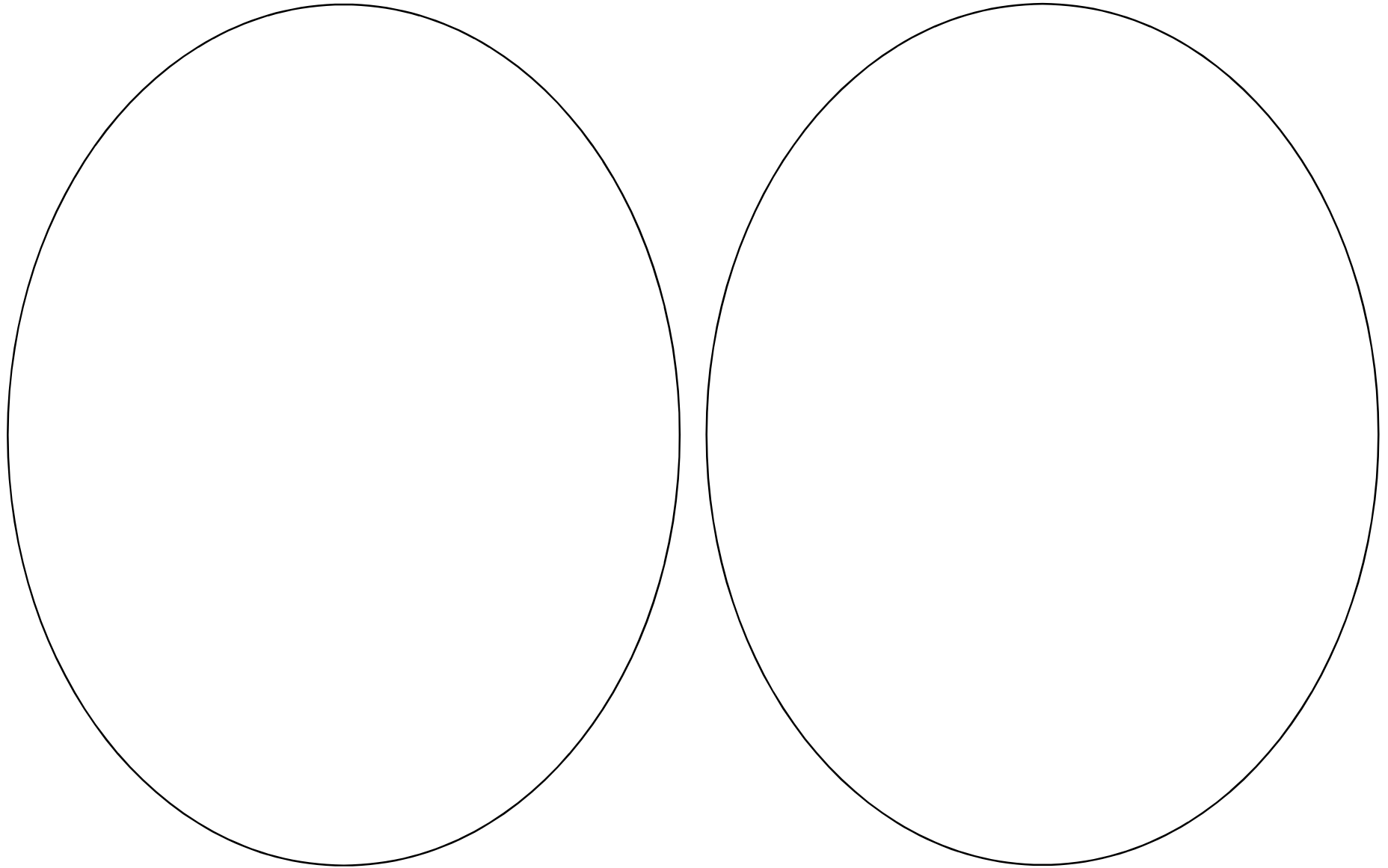
Human influence	Positive Impacts	Negative Impacts
Houses built for people to live in	e.g. people have shelter from the environment and are safe.	e.g. trees are cut down to make way for the houses.
Roads put in to join the city to the suburbs	e.g. people can get to the city and connect to other suburbs easily for their livelihood	e.g. more trees cut down, more concrete materials used and therefore less vegetation/soil etc to absorb stormwater – flood risk
Shops start to appear to sell to local people		
A local school close by is set up		
Buses start to use roads		
Recreational facilities are put in place e.g. playgrounds		

Once the game has finished, ask the students where most of the counters are? Are they mostly positive, or mostly negative? The students should see that there are both positive and negative impacts.

To summarise, get the students to complete the table below to record some of the positive and negative impacts that were discussed in that activity.

POSITIVE IMPACTS

NEGATIVE IMPACTS



The positive and negative impacts humans can have on people and the environment.

Human influence	Positive Impacts	Negative Impacts
Houses built for people to live in		
Roads put in to join the city to the suburbs		
Shops start to appear to sell to local people		
A local school close by is set up		
Buses start to use roads		
Recreational facilities are put in place e.g. playgrounds		