



CLIMATE CHANGE SOLUTIONS: TAKING ACTION IN YOUR COMMUNITY

Empowering Students To Tackle Climate Change Head-On



Grade Level: 6-12 | Duration: 1-2 class periods

Students Will Be Able To:

- Identify and analyze various innovative solutions addressing climate change
- Understand the concept of becoming a Climate Ambassador
- Propose actionable projects to combat climate change in their community

Materials Needed:

- Paper
- Pencils or pens
- Discussion cards
- Project Proposal worksheet

In the Teachers Guide

- Climate Change Solutions
- Climate Ambassadors
- Project Proposals

RESOURCES

Articles

- [How Shading Crops With Solar Panels Can Improve Farming, Lower Food Costs and Reduce Emissions](#)
- [Food Forests Are Bringing Shade and Sustenance to US Cities, One Parcel of Land at a Time](#)
- [Installing Solar Panels Over California's Canals Could Yield Water, Land, Air and Climate Payoffs](#)

- [Bendable Concrete and Other CO2-Infused Cement Mixes Could Dramatically Cut Global Emissions](#)

Videos

- [How a New Grain Could Help Combat Climate Change](#)
- [How Youth Leadership Is Changing Climate Activism](#)
- [Youth Climate Activists](#)

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1 ENGAGE:

1. Start by watching a short video on the Kernza grain and its environmental impact. Discuss why this is an innovative solution to address climate change.
2. Divide students into groups. Have each group read one of the articles about climate solutions listed under Resources. Come together for a group discussion and consider the following questions:
 - a. How does each of these climate solutions play a role in lessening the impacts of climate change?
 - b. How do these climate solutions address the SDGs we discussed in the last lesson?

2 EXPLORE:

1. Introduce the concept of becoming "Climate Ambassadors" and watch the videos "How Youth Leadership is Changing Climate Activism" and "Youth Climate Activists." Facilitate a discussion on leadership for climate action and what it means to be a Climate Ambassador.
 - a. What does it mean to be a leader for climate action?
 - b. What do you think a Climate Ambassador does?
2. Now it's time for students to develop their project proposals and become Climate Ambassadors themselves. Divide students into the same groups they were in when they developed their project pitches. Have students review feedback they received on their pitches and make adjustments as needed.



Use the discussion cards to further conversations.

3 EXPLAIN:

1. Groups should complete the Project Proposal worksheet to define their project, its goals, what they need to carry out their project, and a timeline for implementation.
2. Provide extra class time, if needed, for groups to work on their project proposals.

4 ELABORATE:

1. Groups should share their proposals with community members, school leaders, and/or their peers to gather feedback.
2. After gathering feedback, groups should continue working on their proposals to refine them and make adjustments.
3. Groups should create an oral or visual presentation that describes their project proposal, including which climate change issue is addressed and the reason for its selection, the issue's relevance to their chosen SDG, and goals for implementing the project in their community.

5 EVALUATE:

1. Conduct final proposal presentations, allowing each group to advocate for their proposal.
2. After every group has presented, invite students to debate the pros and cons of each proposal and then choose the proposal that has the most potential for effectively combating climate change in their community.
3. As an extension, consider inviting community leaders to your event, or conduct the event as a community event for all stakeholders from your area to attend.
4. Conduct a debrief and reflection session with students.

CLOSURE OR EXIT TICKET:

1. Reflect on today's lesson and share one innovative climate change solution that resonated with you the most. How do you think this solution could be implemented in your community?
2. Consider the project proposals presented by your classmates. Which proposal do you believe has the most potential to make a meaningful impact in combating climate change in your community? Why?

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Discussion Cards: Use these questions to prompt discussions and encourage students to think critically about climate change and its implications.



Name at least one innovative solution that addresses climate change.



How do solar panel shading and carbon dioxide-infused cement help fight climate change?



Name at least one youth climate leader who inspires you.



What qualities make a good Climate Ambassador?



How can individuals combat climate change in their communities?



What challenges exist for climate change solutions in your community?



How do proposed solutions align with the Sustainable Development Goals?



What climate change impacts have you seen in your community?

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Discussion Cards: Use these questions to prompt discussions and encourage students to think critically about climate change and its implications.



How does climate change affect different groups, especially vulnerable ones?



What roles do governments, businesses, and individuals play in addressing climate change?



How can communities collaborate for sustainability and carbon reduction?



What benefits come from implementing climate solutions locally?



How does technology aid in combating climate change?



How can we raise awareness and inspire action on climate change locally?



How can climate change solutions be funded and supported at the local level?



What actions can you and your peers take to promote climate action in your school or community?

PROJECT PROPOSAL WORKSHEET

Directions: Fill out the following sections to create a proposal for a project that addresses a climate change issue in your community.

Name: _____

Date: _____

Group members:

Climate change issue addressed:

Reason for selection:

Description of proposed project: Explain the proposed project How does it address the identified climate change issue? What are the potential benefits of implementing this project in your community?

Relevance to the Sustainable Development Goals: Which SDG does your proposed project align with? Explain how your project contributes to meeting this goal.

Goals for implementation: Outline specific goals you aim to achieve by implementing this project. How do you plan to measure the success of your project?

Challenges and barriers: Identify potential challenges or barriers to implementing your proposed project. How do you plan to overcome them?

Budget and resources: Estimate the resources required to implement your project. Consider materials, manpower, and any other necessary resources. How do you plan to acquire these resources?

Timeline: Create a timeline outlining the steps involved in implementing your project. Include milestones and deadlines for each stage of the project.
